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AND

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DEATH.

On the 14th May, at Government House, Bermuda, FRANCES ISABELLA, the beloved wife of Lieutenant-General G. DOGBY BARKER, C.B., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Bermuda, aged 59 years.

On the 15th inst., at Idlewild, Seymour Road, HENRY HO SHAI-KAN, son of Mr. HO TUNG, aged 20 months. Deeply regretted.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The Canadian mail of the 19th April arrived, per C.P.R. steamer *Empress of Japan*, on the 12th May (23 days); the German mail of the 4th April arrived, per N.D.L. steamer *Sachsen*, on the 15th May (41 days); and the American mail of the 17th April arrived, per O. & O. steamer *Doric*, on the 16th May (29 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Sir Henry Blake, with Lady Blake and Miss Blake, arrival at Tientsin on the 4th instant.

Shanghai has sent a third remittance, amounting to Rs 45,000, to Calcutta for the India Famine Fund.

By order of the Imperial Governor of Kiaochow the ports of Hongkong, Canton, Manila, Hoihow, and all Formosan ports have been declared infected with plague.

Ill-feeling against the Hankow railway is reported to be growing, partly owing to several accidents which have occurred in connection with the construction and partly through the alleged bad conduct of the railway men.

The Corean Government's attempt to secure a loan of silver for the purpose of coinage is said to have been unsuccessful, the conditions being prohibitive, but it is anticipated that no difficulty will ultimately be experienced in getting the money.

The Japanese Crown Prince's wedding on the 10th instant was a simple but impressive ceremony, according to telegraphic despatches. Great popular enthusiasm was manifested throughout the country. The weather was splendid. Addresses were presented by foreigners at Kobe and Yokohama.

The Nagasaki Press speaks of a report from Peking that Russia has obtained the right to extend the Trans-Siberian railway as far as the Chinese capital. To achieve this end, it is stated that Russia has distributed three million taels in the shape of bribes among the Ministers of the Peking Government.

The Lu Han line having been completed as far as Chung-ting, the Russians have asked the Government, it is said, to send the proper officials with them to define the railway grant already held by them for the line from that point to Tai Yuen the provincial capital of Shansi, and to assist them in purchasing the land for the line.

The first passenger steamer up the Yangtsze for Ichang and Chungking *via* Hankow starts on her maiden trip on the 23rd instant. The *Pioner* has been specially built for the passenge of the river, and as well be seen from the notice which appears elsewhere she offers facilities for first-class passengers who wish to see the celebrated Yangtszes Gorges.

The death is announced from Bangkok of the Princess Banna Bimon, aged 20, eldest daughter of H. R. H. Prince Nara. Her illness, which has ended so fatally, is attributed to over-exertions in nursing cholera patients, at her home. *The Bangkok Times* of the 7th instant announces the death on the previous day of a ten-year old son of the King of Siam.

An United States War Office return issued on the 13th ult. states that the American military forces in the Philippines number 63,585 officers and men, of whom 30,847 are volunteers. General Miles, Commander-in-Chief, in the course of an interview at Philadelphia, expressed considerable doubt as to whether it would be possible to reduce that large army in the course of the next few months

It is reported from Selangor, that Mr. G. T. Hare, who accompanied Sir Frank Swettenham on the *Terrible* to this port, is charged with a special mission in China by the Government of Federated Malaya. Mr. Hare has been asked, it is said by the Government to touch at certain ports in China and inspect the porcelain potteries there. Mr. Hare is also to bring away with him Chinese labourers from the potteries, so that they may be employed in the porcelain industry which the Federal Government proposes to introduce in the States as an experiment.

A Japanese vernacular paper remarks that good results are already apparent from the recent Naval Manœuvres. The squadron's movements in the attack on the Miyama Defence Forts are reported to have been of especial benefit. The journal says the attack on an immovable fort by ships is the most difficult of all operations, as was proved at the bombardment of the fort on Liu-kungtao off Wei-hai-wei during the China-Japan war. Investigations and improvements in squadron movements in such a movement have been made and sought by the Naval authorities since and the results were tested at the attack on the Miyama Defence Forts towards the conclusion of the Manœuvres. The result was highly satisfactory.

The Shanghai Mercury says:—It is rumoured in the Settlement that the foreign jurist, to whom he dispute over the case of the Indo-China steamer *Kowshing* is according to Mr. Brodtick's statement in the House of Commons to be referred, is the President of the United States who will be assisted by the Hon. Mr. Foster, a well-known lawyer, who visited the East in an official capacity during the the Chino-Japanese war.

The mandarins of the Shanghai neighbourhood have received despatches from the South reporting the existence of a widespread rebellion in the provinces of Kwangtung, Kwangsi, Kweichou and Hunan. So far it is only known that the rebels are under one leadership, but full details are expected to arrive in a few days from the officials of the disturbed provinces in question. From Shantung and Chihli provinces the Boxers are reported to be getting stronger and stronger.

The *Manila Times* reports:—General Pantaleon Garcia, the rebel General who accompanied Aguinaldo in his will o'-the-wisp chase through the mountains with General Young's cavalry column at his heels, has been captured by Captain Smith, General Fuaston's Adjutant-General, at Jsen, in the province of Nueva Ecija. When taken, Garica was on his sick-bed too ill to move, and was carried by stretcher to San Isidro, Funston's headquarters, where he is now receiving treatment in the hospital.

The collection of lekin in these settlements, says a writer in *The Shanghai Mercury*, is the subject of a letter from the Chairman of the Municipal Council, published in the last minutes. I am pleased to see that the matter has been taken up by the Council in the way it has. A petty official had been arrested and the Council had agreed to release him should bail be forthcoming to the extent of Tls. 1,000, and the Taotai objected to it, etc. Such serious cases ought to be dealt with a firm hand and the Chinese Goverment ought to be given to understand that a repetition of such a violation of local regulations will not be tolerated. The excuses made by the Taotai are extremely lame, but it is to be hoped that the steps taken will put a stop to lekin runners ever trying to make squeezes in the Foreign Settlement again.

A Simla telegram of the 12th ult. reported that matters seem to be settling down on the Upper Burma frontier. Mr. Scott and his demarcation Mission had got well to the south-east of the Was country, where the attack was recently made upon them, and were continuing the alignment of the border unmolested. Mr. Hertz also, and his party, continued the message, had got back from their expedition to the north east of Bhamo, and friendly negotiations were proceeding with the Chinese authorities for the settlement of this part of the border and to prevent a recurrence of the attacks on British officials. A telegram a fortnight later says:—A report has been received from Mr. Scott's survey party on the Burmo-Chinese border to the effect that Nalawt was to have been reached on the 19th inst. The line has been already demarcated from the south and here joins the section of the frontier on which Mr. Scott has been engaged, and the latter's task, therefore, is probably by now completed. The Mission may be expected to commence the march back into Burma almost immediately.

THE COMMISSION'S TASK IN THE PHILIPPINES.

(*Daily Press*, 12th May.)

If a deluge of advice could settle the Filipino question, there can be no doubt that the Commission recently appointed by the President of the United States of America for the pacification of the Philippines and the establishment of a Civil Government would have an easy task before it. In America, magazines and reviews, daily papers and periodicals of all shades of opinion, have flooded their pages with accounts of the Philippines and offered gratuitous advice to the representatives of their Government as to the best means of governing the Philippines and the most approved manner of treating the natives. Some of the articles that we have red are truly astonishing. There seems to be an epidemic of philanthrophy existing at the present time in the Press of the United States and a desire to place the leaders of guerilla bands in an assembl worthy only of sedate and august senatorsyof Anglo-Sax blood and training. In the matter of colonial and tropical Government the American Press speaks without experience, and being without that hall-marked commodity the writers in the United States have no wisdom to dispense to the Commission in their gigantic task of raising a civil and systematic government in the Philippines out of chaos. It is a singular and astounding fact that, although the literature of the United States teems with works on almost every imaginary subject yet Colonial Government and the well-being of natives in the tropics under European rule are, or were until quite recently, entirely neglected. The Commission therefore can receive no support or guidance from the labours of its own nation, unless it be from the report of the previous Commission to the Philippines; and it must perforce rely upon the works of English, Dutch, and Frnech Colonial legislators of the past, a study of the English and Dutch systems of the present, and their own still to be acquired wisdom and experience of the Philippines in the future, in order to enable them to decide upon what particular form of civil Government is best suited to the needs of the Philippines and the well-being and happiness of the millions that inhabit them.

With respect to the government of Oriental races, however much the Press of the United States may talk about native representation in the Philippines, we must confess that we have a strong prejudice against this. Nothing to our mind seems more compatible with Oriental tradition, the low stage of civilization that exists in some parts of these islands, and the diversity of tribes and tongues that abounds in the Philippines, than a good Crown Colony Government on British principles. From the nature of the climate, as in India, the relative number of American or European colonists in the Philippines in proportion to the general bulk of the natives must always remain insignificant; but the white colonists will ever contain that quality of vigour upon which the development of the Philippines depends. To make it possible therefore in a Legislative Assembly for the white element to be outvoted and outclassed by a crowd of Filipino office-seekers is to court disaster and to retard all possible development of the islands which the Americans have taken in hand. But, although we advocate Crown Colony government, with the making of laws and the general direction of policy under the control of experienced officers, as in our large dependency of India, we by no means affirm that it is wise or expedient to neglect the claims of the Filipinos to a large share in municipal control, magisterial work, and the hearing of small claims in the country districts and smaller towns. In fact the Filipinos, rightly encouraged, would prove of inestimable worth to the American Government in the pacification and administration of the country. And there is no reason why individuals of more than ordinary ability, faithfulness, and zeal, should not attain to high position and even eminence when once their loyalty to the American Government has been established. We note with satisfaction that Provincial Courts have already been established in the provinces of Pampanga, Nueva Ecija, Ilocos Norte and Bataan, and that Filipinos are required to repair to Manila to qualify for the respective positions to which they have been appointed in these Courts. As the military form of government gradually diappears and the civil takes its place we anticipate that the people will become more contented, particularly when they see that they themselves are not neglected but singled out for positions of importance and administration capacity.

The task before the Commissioners, although one of great delicacy and requiring sound judgment, is not insuperable nor beyond the ability of trained and experienced lawyers. It is the duty and pleasure of statesmen to overcome difficulties, and the statescraft of America in appointing the Commissioners has doubtless enquired well into their individual merits and ascertained that they are competent for the grave and responsible work before them. To judge from the tone and comments of the American Press it would appear that no labour of such kind or magnitude had ever fallen to the lot of any country before, but this is to ignore the facts of history and the many examples of kindred situations both in ancient and modern times. The conquest of Canada in 1757 left Britain the possessor of a country with an alien and hostile French population far more vigorous, far more civilized, far more capable of inflicting injury on the conquering state and of protracting warfare than the Filipinos of the present day. England by the treaty of peace safeguarded their customs, language and laws, with the result that at the present moment there are no more loyal citizens in the British Empire than the French Canadians who are now participating in the conflict of arms in South Africa against the foes of the British Nation of which they form a worthy part. During the Napoleonic wars, the seizure of Cape Colony by the English in 1806 threw the responsibility of administration and government of that country with its great Dutch population upon the British. This was administered as a Crown Colony until 1872, when the Cape was granted responsible government. England did not seek to upset the Roman Dutch Law which existed there when she took possession, but rather built upon it by Colonial Legislature. It is an historical fact, and very apparent in our day, that British supremacy at the Cape was never popular. Yet the Dutch population had no idea of rebelling against it and their present disloyalty would never have attained its present formidable dimensions if England had refused to acknowledge the independence of the Dutch Republics raised in the midst of her territories. Britain's success as a Colonial power may be attributed largely to the discretion with which her statesmen adapted themselves to the conditions prevailing in the conquered territories. She assimilated the laws. She made allowances for customs and even language. She never raised an ideal government—humanity could scarcely expect so much—but her Government was generally the harbinger of peace and prosperity.

Whatever instructions the American Commission may have received, we shall be content if they bear in mind the material they have got to work upon, the conditions that prevail in the Philippine Islands nad the basis of Spanish law, which, from long association with Spanish dominion, must be fairly familiar to the minds of the people. We do not expect the civil government when once established to be a panacea for every political ill, but we expect it to be at least better than the Spanish régime and to allow a fair opportunity to native effort.

THE CHINA ASSOCIATION IN 1899

(*Daily Press*, 15th May.)

The report of the China Association, which came before the annual meeting of the Association last month, is a refreshing document to deal with after the struggle to disentangle the various threads of affairs which cross and re-cross in the Blue Book on China that reached us some days ago. In this report the various matters of interest in China are dealt with separately and the correspondence and documents relating to each subject are relegated to their proper appendix, a method which imposes on the reader a far easier task than when he has to proceed merely by the aid of the date and the page on which each letter, paper, etc., appears. The report, however, though simple for purposes of reference, is no light document, but a most careful and painstaking record of a very full year's work. Most of the matters with which it deals are already familiar, to a great extent, to those interested in Chinese affairs. On the whole, Mr. GUNDRY claims in the report, the course of events during the last twelve months has borne out the estimate of the situation expressed in the previous year's report. No confidence has been put in the Dowager Empress's assurance that she did not oppose reform if carried out along lines consistent with Chinese thought. The split between the Government and the reform party is worse, and the provinces are more detached from the capital. But the report is not hopeless even as to the possiblity of the Empress-Dowager changing her mind for the better. "One consideration only," it says, "might lead her to desert [the reactionary clique], and throw her influence "into the opposite scale. If it could be "brought home to her that the present "reactionary policy constitutes a danger for "the Dynasty, she might be induced, yet, "to support a policy of reform. Her halt "on the threshold of what was intended, "seemingly, to be a fresh *coup d'état*, some "weeks ago, proves that she is not altogether "impervious to manifestations of popular "sentiment; but those in the best position "to form an opinion are persuaded that she "is kept in ignorance of the real import "and magnitude of the crisis by which the "Empire is assailed." It is this ignorance, which pervades the whole Government, that constitutes the real danger of the situation and, as the report says, threatens the antonomy of the eighteen provinces. If the necessary reforms could be expected on the initiative of the Chinese themselves, the case would be very different from what it is. But, to quote again, "it may be questioned whether even a strong reforming Emperor could effect such a transformation without foreign support." The development

of the natural resources of China in default of a strong and enlightened native Government, which it may be too much to hope for, may take place, thinks the writer of the report, under an agreement of the Powers "to uphold at least the principle of commercial equality expressed in the Treaties of Tientsin." The assurances obtained by the United States from the other Powers of equality of treatment for foreign trade within their respective spheres of influence pave to a certain extent the way for a more general agreement on the development of the trade and resources of the Chinese Empire.

After a review of the general situation in China, the Association's Report deals with individual matters, under the head of Railways (where a very useful table is given of lines already built, building, or projected), Judicial Reform, a Scheme for Teaching Chinese for commercial purposes (a matter to which we are glad to see attention being devoted), the appointment of a Commercial Attaché at H.M. Legation at Peking, Tariff Revision, Inland Waterways, Coast Export of Rice, River Conservancy, the Upper Yangtsze navigation (now carried still further by the recent success of the *Woodcock* and *Woodlark*), Nanking, Hunan, the Shanghai Extension, Hankow, the Extension of Hongkong, Hongkong Finance, Piracy in the Two Kwang, the C.D.O. (with special reference to Hongkong), Japan, Corea and the revised Consular Fees. From this list it can be seen how much ground was covered by the labours of the Association last year and how justified the chairman at the annual meeting, Mr. W. KESWICK, was in saying that they could not but feel that the matters treated of in the report should carry the very greatest weight with the British Government. Certainly for plain statements of the facts of each case no better book of reference could be found than the report before us.

MALARIA AND THE MOSQUITO.

(*Daily Press*, 16th May.)

Some fifteen or twenty years ago Dr. PATRICK MANSON, a young English physican then practising in Southern China, instituted a series of researches into the tropical diseases there present, and amongst others into malaria, which in the warmer regions of the world is one of the most prevalent. Much had been done previously by others, more especially in Italy, where from ancient times malaria may be said almost to have made its headquarters. Observation had shown that the blood taken from malarious patients invariably contained a large number of small black spots, to which was given the name of Melanil, and which were, moreover, shown to be associated with animal parasites of a low order eventually classed as *hemamœbæ*, an order giving rise to a new generation by spontaneous division. Now the spores thus resulting circulated in the blood of the living host without apparently performing any function whatever, but if a drop of the blood containing them be withdrawn for microscopic examination, after a time a certain number of the bodies are found to burst, and from them to issue a number of threadlike filaments, which immediately begin to dart about in all directions. So far our knowledge had advanced when MANSON took up the task. He published a report of what he had learned thus far, and concluded that these threads were concerned in the carrying on of the generation of the *hemamœbæ*, but was led to wrong deductions as to the next step in the process. The conclusions of MANSON, who at the time was a comparatively unknown man, did not coincide with the views of the Italian investigators, who held that with the production of the filaments the life of the organism ceased; and for some time no progress was made. The British Government, concerned with the loss of life due to malarial disease in India, instructed Dr., now Major, Ross to investigate the disease on the spot, and the results of that investigation, which lasted for some years, have appeared in a complete history of the organism, and its connection with the production and propagation of the disease. The story may well rank as one of the romances of natural history, and exhibits how strange are the connections of the animated world. Unlike most of the other zymotic diseases with which we are acquainted, the fever of malaria owes its origin to the animal, not the vegetable kingdom, and the means of its propagation is a somewhat rare species of mosquito, the *Anopheles*, a gnat with grey spotted wings, which infests pools of stagnant water. Till this discovery of the peculiar microcosm, whose presence in the blood in greater or less numbers gives rise to the phenomena of malarial fever, there was a difficulty in accounting for its well-known periodicity; these new researches throw, however, a flood of light on the subject. The different descriptions of fever, tertian, quartan or remittent are due to three distinct species, whose term of maturity occurs after two, three, or more days, when, their active career being ended, the individuals divide and assume for a time their comparatively harmless stage. If now the infected subject be pierced by the proboscis of an *Anopheles* the blood with its charge of organisms is taken into the internal organs of the mosquito, where after a short term the process which puzzled MANSON takes place. A certain number of the spores, which really are the male organisms, burst, and the contained filaments rush through the liquor till they meet with a female spore, into which they at once enter. The result of this sexual act is the birth of a number of small spindle-shaped organisms, which, moving with the circulating fluid of the mosquito, finally make their way to the salivary glands, whence, on the animal piercing the human cuticle, they are forcibly ejected into the underlying tissue, to undergo a similar *rôle* to their predecessors. If the subject has been previously infected a portion of his blood is now sucked back into the system of the insect, where alone the sexual reproduction takes place, and thus the race of the *hemamœbidæ* is kept alive, alternately in the human body and that of the mosquito. Such is the wonderful story told by Major Ross of the life-history of malaria in the human subject. But our ordinary mosquito, though apparently guiltless as far as the human subject is concerned, has its own part to play in the propagation of disease; the ordinary *Culex pipiens* performs the function of host to another species of *hemamœbæ*, which produces a disease in some of the smaller birds which experiment has shown to be the analogue of malarial fever in the human patient; and doubtless as the investigation goes on it will be found that each class of the higher animals has its own gnat and its malarial disease. Indeed some of these, as the Texas cattle-fever, had been already known and described before these researches on the human disease came to be worked out, and a similiar course of investigation has shown like results in the case of certain reptiles. The research shows how minutely the apparently most remote types of life are related, and how closely bound is the whole system of nature. Naturally Major Ross's discoveries suggest the enquiry as to whether they afford any prospect of ameliorating the grievous plague of malarial fever, which next to tuberculosis is the antecedent cause of the largest mortality to which the race is subject. Major Ross thinks it possible owing to the fact that the *Anopheles* never breeds in any but stagnant water, largely to alleviate the incidence of the disease by filling in or impregnating the ponds with a few simple medicaments, such as coal-tar, &c.; on the other hand, however, it has to be borne in mind that, although the *Anopheles* is a comparatively rare mosquito, the effect of one inoculation may last for an indefinite period as the term during which the *hemamœbæ* may propagate themselves asexually is not known, but is certainly prolonged. Knowledge is power, and though the result of increased knowledge has not been as yet to affect materially the sum of human existence, there is still the hope that it will materially lessen the sufferings to which our ordinary life is subject.

THE UNITED STATES AND THE CHINA TRADE.

(*Daily Press*, 18th May.)

The Bureau of Statistics of the United States Treasury Department has published a pamphlet of some two hundred and fifty pages entitled *Commercial China in* 1899, reprinted from *The Summary of Commerce and Finance for March*, 1899. Within the space of these pages is collected a mass of valuable information, much of it indeed old and to a great extent familiar to students of Chinese trade, but here for the first time brought together in convenient form for reference. The contents are grouped together under the headings of a General Review of Commercial China, Special Statements (including Consular Reports, Official Papers, extracts from the works of recognized authorities, etc.), and Tables. At the first and last sections we do not propose to look here. The general review is mainly a short history of European and American dealings with China, the establishment of colonies, treaty ports, etc., and accounts of the various institutions which affect trade in China. The tables are purely statistical and cannot be dealt with satisfactorily in conjunction with other matters.

The second section undoubtedly forms the most interesting part of the pamphlet. As we have said, there is much that is old in the information collected; but there is also much that is stated in a fresh way or from a fresh point of view—mainly in the reports of the various United States Consuls at the different ports. Mr. J. R. JERNIGAN, the former Consul-General at Shanghai, writes of Asiatic competition in the great manufacturing industries and deprecates any fear of competition from the manufacturers of India, Japan, and China in the American home markets. The American labourer would naturally refuse the clothes of his Asiatic rival, just as he would refuse to be paid in the depreciated currency which the latter receives. But the Chinese demand for cheap clothes is likely to be met by Chinese cheap labour. Further, civilisation will increase Chinese wants and progress may enable them to supply these wants to the danger of the American (and, in the same way, the European) manufacturers. Hence the influence of cheap Asiatic labour is raised to the position of a question of natural importance. Taking the cotton-market as an example, Mr.

JERNIGAN says that, apart from the price of labour, "another consideration tending "to cause competition to be more energetic is "that the machinery in the cotton mills of "China is of the most improved pattern, and "that quality as well as the quantity of the "cotton goods will enter into the competition. "It is certain that there can be produced in "China a much superior grade of cotton to "that now produced, and with improved "machinery Chinese cotton mills will be able "to supply the demand for a finer quality of "cotton goods as they are now supplying the "demand for the more inferior quality." This question of the threatened capture of the Asiatic market by Asiatic manufactures has, of course, been receiving a great amount of attention recently; and the significant advance of Japan in the cotton-trade last year has emphasised the necessity of facing the question at once. We only quote Mr. JERNIGAN's remarks as showing that the United States Government is kept well posted in the matter by her representatives.

Though the pamphlet bears witness to much American energy in China, there is not wanting a good deal of evidence that opportunities of pushing trade are freely neglected; and indeed much the same language is used of American remissness as we are wont to hear applied to the want of energy of British merchants. One United States Consul, in 1897, pointed to the good example of a British firm at Chinkiang and contrasted the supineness of American traders. He went on to say:—"British firms are fully "alive to the fact that to introduce goods into "China a sacrifice must undoubtedly be made, "and it is owing to their recognition of this "that they have maintained their supremacy "in the commerce of this country." This would be encouraging to us, were it not that so many competent critics refuse to believe that this supremacy can be maintained without the display of a gre t deal more energy and adaptability. However, as to the matter of want of "push" on the part of America, the United States Consul-General at Shanghai, Mr. JOHN GOODNOW, on the 19th November last wrote very strongly to a correspondent in New York: "I need not impress it upon "you that Americans must now push more "strongly than ever for the trade of "China. . . Most of our manufacturers "have been content to do business in a half-"hearted way in Asia, and have not taken "the trouble to make themselves acquainted "with the banking methods, the shipping "methods, the various laws in force, the cli-"mate, the superstitions, and the details of "the needs and customs of the people. . . "This is a peculiar people, who will buy "nothing if they cannot get exactly what "they want, put up and labelled as "their customs and superstitions dictate. "The supply must fit the demand." And so on. All this perhaps is familiar enough, even trite. But can it be repeated too often? Almost exactly the same words have been addressed to British merchants. It will not take many years to show whether the words have been heeded or not. In the meantime it is no consolation that the same fault is found in American houses trading with China. But it is certainly instructive to note the fact. This pamphlet is well worth study, if only from this point of view.

The *Osaka Asahi* observes that during the recent naval manœuvres, the details of which were kept concealed from the public, a certain Power sent some thirty military spies to the Port Admiralties and was trying to get information concerning the operations! The story, says *The Kobe Chronicle*, seems very improbable.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

On Monday afternoon, the 14th inst., a meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber at the Government Offices, there being present;—

His EXCELLENCY the ACTING GOVERNOR, Major-General GASCOIGNE, C.M.G. (Commanding the Troops).

The Hon. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Acting Colonial Secretary).

Hon. W. MEIGH GOODMAN (Attorney-General).

Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. R. D. ORMSBY (Director of Public Works).

Hon. H. C. NICOLLE.

Hon. C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Hon. H. SMITH.

Mr. R. F. JOHNSTON (Acting Clerk of Councils).

PAPER.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the report of the Superintendent of the Botanical and Afforestation Department for 1899.

FINANCIAL.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY brought up table the report of the Finance Committee (No. 7) and moved its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was carried.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table Financial Minutes Nos. 22 23, 24 and 25, and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded and the motion was carried.

A NEW BYE-LAW APPROVED.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—I have the honour to move, sir, that the Bye-law made by the Sanitary Board on the 26th April, 1900, under Sub-section 1 of Section 13 of Ordinance 25 of 1887, be approved by the Council. The Bye-law reads as follows:—"Whenever any private house-drain is about to be constructed or re-constructed in the City of Victoria, the Sanitary Board shall have power to require the provision of a surface channel of approved materials and design, in lieu of a covered drain, in any position in which a covered drain may appear to them to be undersirable. Waste pipes from buildings and surface channels from cook-houses, stables, cow-sheds and the like shall discharge into such surface channel without the intervention of a trap; but any communication between such surface channel and a covered drain shall be by means of a trap."

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS seconded and the motion was carried.

NATURALISATION.

On the motion of the ATTORNEY GENERAL, seconded by the ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY, the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance for the Naturalisation of Leung Shek Chiu, *alias* Leung Foon Man *alias* Leung Kin was passed.

THE PROTECTION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS ORDINANCE.

On the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL a Bill entitled an Ordinance to further amend the Protection of Women and Girls Ordinance, 1897 and to repeal two sections of the Protection of Women and Girls Amendment Ordinance, 1899, was read a first time.

THE CHAI MUI NUISANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL, in proposing the second reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 10 of 1872, said—Ordinance No. 10 of 1872 is entitled "An Ordinance to prevent Certain Nuisances." Section 5 of the Ordinance prohibits under a penalty of $10, the uttering of any shouts or cries and the making of other noises while playing the game known as Chai-Mui from 11 p.m. to six a.m. in any district or place not permitted by some regulation of the Governor in Council. The new Ordinance now before us gives the Governor in Council power to fix the hours according to the requirements of the district or place. Hongkong has increased in size and buildings are more numerous, and there are other places besides Victoria where it would be necessary to enforce regulations in connection with this somewhat noisy game. In brothels and common lodging houses it is of course very difficult to prove the particular persons among the many people there who are uttering these shouts and cries. Our may live very near to a brothel or common lodging house and this may be going on in the middle of the night, but if you endeavour to prosecute anybody there is great difficulty, because the person arrested would probably say he was not the offender but somebody else. With the view, therefore, to make the keepers of brothels and lodging-houses prevent the people who frequent these houses from making these noises the keeper himself is made liable to a fine of $10, the same as the actual offenders.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

The Hon. Dr. HO KAI—I am not going to oppose, this Bill but at the same time I notice that in section 1 no hours are mentioned. It seems to give the Government power to make the hours any they think proper, instead of from 11 to six. The section says:—"Within the hours prescribed for any district or place by any regulation of the Governor in Council published in the *Gazette*." I suppose it is intended that the Governor should have power to prescribe arbitrarily and from time to time the hours during which Chai-Mui may be played. If such is the intention I would not support the Bill. If not I will support it.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—In answer to the question of the honourable gentleman, I may say that drawing a hard and fast line, and saying from 11 o'clock, is sometimes inconvenient. It is particularly objected to in certain portions of the city of Victoria occupied entirely by Chinese, and the intention is to make the hour later in certain districts occupied entirely by Chinese and earlier than eleven in places very close to Europeans. There is no intention to harass the Chinese or to prevent their indulging in the game. In fact under this Ordinance they are more likely to gain than to lose.

The Hon. Dr. HO KAI—I am delighted to hear that. I have presented a memorandum to the Governor on the question. I pointed out that in my humble opinion in those places which are entirely Chinese the hour might be 12, or even later, because Chai-Mui is a game which by long custom and usage is much in favour among the Chinese when enjoying a holiday or feast. I also suggested that in Chinese houses close to the European quarter the hour should be 10.

The motion was carried.

The Council then went into committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

On the Council resuming the Bill was read a third time and passed.

THE REGULATION OF CHINESE ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL, in proposing the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to further amend the Regulation of Chinese Ordinance 1888, said—It is stated in the objects and reasons attached to the fact of the Bill that—"The operation of certain enactments of the Regulation of Chinese Ordinance, 1888, has been hitherto confined wholly or chiefly to the city of Victoria. The growth of building and population in other parts of the colony renders it desirable that the Governor in Council should have power to extend from time to time the benefit of such enactments to other places. The object of this Ordinance is to confer the necessary authority for that purpose." I may say that section 21 of Ordinance 13 of 1888 deals with Chinese music in the public streets of Victoria; section 23 deals with processions in the city of Victoria; section 24 deals with inflammable structures in Victoria and in any village of the colony or within 100 yards of any building; section 25 deals with fireworks in the city of Victoria or within 300 feet of the Praya Wall; section 27 deals with permits. Section 2 of the new Ordinance gives the Governor in Council power to specify other places or districts. Section 3 of the new Ordinance adds "the Chinese reed pipe," to the category of drums and gongs such reed pipes are not to be played between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m., except for funerals and marriages.

The ACTING COLONIAL Secretary seconded and the motion was carried.

The Council went into committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

On the Council resuming the Bill was read a third time and passed.

PENSIONS FOR WIDOWS AND ORPHANS.

On the motion of the COLONIAL TREASURER, seconded by the ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY the Bill entitled An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the law providing for the grant of pensions to the widows and orphans of deceased public officers was read a second time.

The Council then went into committee and the Bill was left in Committee.

The Council then adjourned until Monday, the 28th inst.

MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Finance Committee held immediately after the Council Meeting, the Acting Colonial Secretary presiding, the following votes were agreed to :—

A sum of $5,000 in aid of the following votes in connection with the New Territory :—

Balance of expenditure on Taipo Police Station	$ 500.00
Wages of caretakers employed at Old Customs Station, Temporary Draftsman, &c., for 9 months at $135 per month	1,215.00
Sundry stores required in connection with above	200.00
Travelling allowances to officers, launch hire, &c.	700.00
Incidental works	2,385.00
Total	$5,000.00

A sum of $200 in aid of the vote "'Incidental Expenses,' Nursing Institute."

A sum of $1,690 in aid of the vote for the construction of the steam tender *Stanley* for the New Territory.

A sum of $3,292.88 for the construction of a public latrine at the Sookunpoo Market.

This was all the business.

SUPREME COURT.

May 15th.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH (ACTING PUISNE JUDGE).

A RATING APPEAL.

This was an appeal by Mr. R. Shewan, acting as attorney for the owner of the premises known as Rose Hill, Caine Road, for the refund of certain rates paid in respect of Rose Hill last year.

Mr. M. W. Slade (instructed by Messrs. Deacon and Hastings) appeared for the applicant and the Attorney-General (the Hon. W. Meigh Goodman), instructed by Mr. Bowley, appeared for the respondent.

Mr. Slade having read the petition, answer, and replication, said the facts in this case were really of the simplest description. In 1893 one of the principal Secretaries of State for War took a lease of the ground floor of Rose Hill, the right of way to the upper floor being reserved. Then a lease was taken of the upper floor on behalf of the officers of the Royal Artillery, together with a right of way through the ground floor. These leases were both made in 1893, commencing on the 1st November. They were for one year only, but the parties continued to hold on to the premises until the 31st August, 1899. The monthly rent for the ground floor was at first $125, it being subsequently raised 10 per cent. to $137.50. The rent for the upper floor was at first $75 and was subsequently raised 10 per cent. to $82.50. During the continuance of this lease Mr. Shewan, on behalf of the owner of the premises, paid the rates and regularly obtained a refund of the rates from the Colonial Treasurer on the ground that the premises were in military occupation. On the 31st August, 1899, the Royal Artillery Mess was moved to the present quarters, and the premises became vacant. Mr. Shewan put in one of his clerks as caretaker. That clerk had a family and the family lived with him on the premises. They paid no rent, they being in merely as caretakers. There was no beneficial occupation whatsoever to the owner of the premises. On the 4th October a notice was given to the Colonial Treasurer that the premises were vacant, and on the 3rd February, 1900, a refund of the rates was claimed for the previous year. On the 14th February a letter was received by Mr. Shewan from the Colonial Treasurer, Mr. Thomson, stating that his application for a refund of rates had been examined and $78 had been allowed, and that if he would sign the receipt enclosed that sum would be paid to the messenger. The rates for the three quarters ended Dec. 31st not having been refunded Mr. Shewan put the matter into the hands of his solicitors. Messrs. Deacon and Hastings asked for an explanation, and the reply they received was to the effect that it was because the rates were not paid in advance, nothing being said of the points now raised by the other side.

The Attorney-General said that the question raised was whether the rates of Rose Hill ought to have been refunded by the Colonial Treasurer for the last three quarters of 1899. No question arose as to the first quarter, because the rates were paid during the first month of that quarter in accordance with the requirements of the law and the Government notification of the 28th August, 1896. Therefore on due application to refund being made such refund was granted by the Treasurer. As regarded the second quarter and two months of the third quarter, a refund was asked for on the ground that the premises were occupied by military officers; but the rates were not paid within the first month of these respective quarters, and the terms of the Government notification before referred to not having been complied with the Treasurer declined to granted such refund. It was not competent for the petitioner to raise in this petition any question of whether the premises ought to have been rated at all,, because if they were improperly rated an appeal against such rating could have been laid under section 15 of the Rating Ordinance of 1883 within the time mentioned in that Ordinance. The only question before the court on this petition was whether the Treasurer was right in declining to make the refund, and the Attorney-General contended that as the payment was not made within the first month of the quarter the Treasurer was right in refusing to make the refund. As regarded the last month of the third quarter, namely, September, and as regarded the fourth quarter, the application for a refund was based on the ground that the premises were unoccupied during these four months. The Attorney-General submitted that the fact that the appellant's Portuguese clerk and his numerous family were allowed to live on the premises for the last three months of the year showed that the property was not really unoccupied, for a gardener was left there as caretaker and was continued as caretaker while the Portuguess clerk lived there. But assuming that the premises were unoccupied within the meaning of the Ordinance, section 35 regulated refunds. By the first sub-section of section 35 the owner of a tenement was required to give notice to the Treasurer that such tenement was vacant not later than the 15th day of any month from the first day of which it was intended to claim such refund. As regarded the month of September this was not done, and by section 37 the Ordinance expressly declared that the petitioner should not recover if such notice had not been given, and threw the burden of proof upon the petitioner. Then again, subsection 3 of section 35 required the applicant for a refund to apply to the Treasurer in the form under Schedule D of the Act for such refund within 15 days after the expiration of the quarter during which the tenement had been unoccupied. In the present case this was not done, the application not being made until the third of February, 1900. Moreover—and this was the ground specially relied on by the Treasurer—the rate was not paid in advance as required by section 34 of the Ordinance. It was contended by the counsel for the petitioner that the rates were paid in advance because they were paid before the end of the quarter, but the clear meaning of payment in advance must be payment before the amount was due. Section 31 required that all rates should be paid quarterly in advance at the Treasury within the first month of each quarter, the times appointed for such payments to be notified quarterly by the Treasurer in the *Gazette*. The notification in the *Gazette* stated that the rates for the fourth quarter of 1899 were payable in advance on or before the 31st of October, 1899, and expressly notified that "no refund of rates on vacant tenements will be granted unless such rates have been paid during and within the month of October." It was clear, therefore that the statute made these rates "due" during the first month of each quarter. It was, therefore, impossible to contend that a payment not made until the 11th November—that was to say, during the month after October and after the rates were due—was a payment in advance within the meaning of the Rating Ordinance. On previous occasions no doubt refunds had been obtained, but the applicants for such refunds had complied with the requirements of the Ordinance. Once the Treasurer began making refunds of rates where the requirements of the ordinance had not been complied with, chaos would replace order, and everybody would be asking for refunds if they thought they had any moral claim, without taking the trouble to comply with the conditions precedent imposed by the law.

Mr. Slade having replied,

His Lordship said he would reserve his decision.

16th May.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR JOHN CARRINGTON, KT., C.M.G. (CHIEF JUSTICE.)

SANDICO AND OTHERS V. WILDMAN.

This was an application arising out of the case of Sandico and others v. Wildman. The plaintiffs were four Filipino leaders, Theodoro Sandico, Vito Bellarmino, Arcadio del Rosario, and Galiamo Apacible—the defendant being Mr. Rounsevelle Wildman, U.S. Consul-General. The claim was for certain moneys alleged to have been lodged with the defendant.

Mr. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. Slade (instructed by Mr. Brayne) for the defendant.

Mr. Slade said he moved that this suit be dismissed. On the 4th July last year the court made an order that the plaintiffs should answer certain interrogatories. Two months were given in which to answer these interrogatories. On the 8th September, no answers having been filed, a further application was made and two months further were granted. On the 3rd November, that was four months after the order was made, answers were filed by Dr. Apacible, but a further extension of time was asked for on behalf of the other three, two months being given to Sandico and Rosario and three months to Bellarmino. These periods expired without anything being done, and on February 27th a further order was made, giving two months more time. On April 27th, the answers being still unfiled, a further extension was asked for, but was refused by his Lordship. The plaintiffs had had nine months and three weeks in which to answer these interrogatories. His Lordship's order refusing any further time on the 27th April had not been appealed from, and he submitted that the plaintiffs were in default. Under these circumstances he submitted that the plaintiffs had shown a want of due prosecution, and his Lordship, by section 49 of the code had power to dismiss the petition for want of a prosecution. Continuing, Mr. Slade said this was a suit by four plaintiffs suing jointly. The order of the court was that all four plaintiffs should answer. That order was not appealed against. The plaintiffs had accepted that order and filed affidavits excusing themselves. Therefore that being a joint order, binding on all four, he contended that it was necessary for the due prosecution of the case that the answers of all four plaintiffs should be put in. Even if one of the plaintiffs had filed answers, it might be that the other three would not answer in the same way as Apacible and refuse to be put on oath as he had been put on oath. If that was the case, it was a matter of great importance to the defendant that all the plaintiffs should file answers.

Mr. Francis submitted in the first instance that this was a suit distinctly at common law and not in equity. It was simply an action for the recovery of money lodged in the hands of an agent. He also submitted that the court had no jurisdiction at common law to stay these proceedings. He further submitted that in this case there was nothing to prevent the defendant from adopting the remedy provided—setting the case down for hearing—and if they were unable to establish their case in the absence of three of the plaintiffs the defendant was entitled to get his judgment.

His Lordship said that in this case the plaintiffs, who were four in number, brought a suit against the defendant, asking for an order for the payment to them of the sum of $47,000 deposited by them with him on the 31st June, 1898. The petition was duly filed on the 21st Feb., 1899 and the answer was filed on the 21st of the following month. On the 4th July, 1899, an order was made by the court directing the plaintiffs to answer certain interrogatories which were settled by the court apparently after argument in chambers. These interrogatories were four in number. The time given to answer them was two months, the period expiring on the 7th November. On the third November one of the plaintiffs, Apacible filed his answers to the interrogatories. Then on the 7th November an extension of two months was obtained in the case of Sandico and Rezario and one of three months in the case of Bellarmino. Then on the 15th December an order was made for the plaintiffs to give security for the defendant's costs with a stay of proceedings until such security was given. That seemed to have had the effect of hanging up the order for an answer to the interrogatories, and nothing further was done with regard to the answers to the interrogatories until the 27th of February, 1900, when an order was made granting two months' further time, it being intimated that no further extension would be granted unless a different set of circumstances were set up. Accordingly on the 27th of April when application was made for three months further extension and no further grounds were shown, the court refused to grant the time asked for. The four plaintiffs, therefore, became in default. They had failed to obey the order of the court directing them to answer these interrogatories. The defendant now came before the court and asked that the suit be dismissed for want of prosecution. The first question which arose was whether the court had power to make the order asked for. Mr. Slade contended that the court had such power, whilst Mr. Francis argued that, inasmuch as this was a common law action and that the power referred to in the case in the House of Lords—the Republic of Liberia v. Ray—was a case in the Chancery jurisdiction, the court had no such power. His Lordship dealt with this point, and added that he assumed, although he did not expressly decide the point, that for the purpose of the present argument the court had such power which it was asked to exercise in this case. The further question remained whether this was a case in which the court should exercise that power. In order to decide that question it would be necessary to have regard to the position in which these parties stood with regard to the question of answering the interrogatories. One plaintiff had answered them, whilst, the other three had not. According to the defence set up by the defendant in his answer the four plaintiffs were, so to speak, acting together. They had no right to the money in themselves, but were acting as agent to a nam named Artachio. There was no suggestion that the positions of the plaintiffs were different. Therefore an answer having been put in by one of the plaintiffs, he had to consider whether it was reasonable or likely that the answer to the interrogatories by the three plaintiffs who were in default would be different. He confessed he did not see any ground for thinking the answers would be different. There were two decisions which went to show that the court ought not to exercise its power by way of dismissing this suit. Those were the cases cited by Mr. Francis. He thought none of the arguments applied to this case. There was an answer filed by one plaintiff, and he did not see why it should not be taken as an answer by all the others. He thought, therefore, there was no reason why the court should exercise this large power which it possessed and dismiss the suit for want of prosecution. At the same time he must say in regard to this suit that the plaintiffs must make up their minds, as the suit could not hang over the defendant indefinitely. With regard to the costs, there would be an order that in this case, so far as the defendant was concerned, the costs should be the costs of the cause, and so far as the plaintiffs were concerned they should not be entitled to costs.

THE RECEPTION OF THE "TERRIBLE."

SPORTS AT HAPPY VALLEY.

By permission of the stewards of the Hongkong Jockey Club, sports were held on the Race Course at Happy Valley on Saturday afternoon, the 12th inst. in honour of Captain Percy Scott, C.B., and the officers and crew of H.M.S. Terrible. Sir. John W. Carrington, Knt, C.M.G., was president of committee; Messrs. Hart Buck, G. A. Caldwell, T. F. Hough, (Dr.) J. A. Lowson, James McKie. A. M. Marshall, and M. W. Slade sports sub-committee; Messrs G. A. Caldwell and T. F. Hough starters; Mr. F. G. Motton, R.N., and Lieut. H. Rotherham. R.W.F., judges; Mr. M. W. Slade honorary secretary sports sub-committee; and Mr. T. F. Hough clerk of course. The place had been made to look gay by a liberal display of bunting, and the proceedings were enlivened by the bands of the Royal Welch Fusiliers and Hongkong Regiment. There was a large attendance of the general public. Much amusement was caused by the different events, but the latter part of the programme was interfered with by the rain.

The first item was a pony race open to the crew of the *Terrible* only. Four prizes of $25, $15, $10 and $5 were offered, and these were won by T. Hayles, J. Dart, W. Thomas, and J. Copplestone.

A bicycle race confined to the *Terrible* crew was won by Warburton, Walker and Light being second and third. The prizes were $25, $15, and $10.

A leap-frog race, open to the Navy and Army, was an amusing event. Griffin and McMurray, of the R. G. A., won the first prize, $15, and Tomkinson and Davies, of the R.W.F., the second.

The Bloemfontein handicap, 120 yards flat race, was confined to officers of the *Terrible*. A cup was presented by the Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., it being also arranged that a cup for a second prize should be presented if seven or more competitors started. This condition was fulfilled. Mr. Reynolds came in first and Mr. Cole second.

The Ladysmith stakes (obstacle race), open to the Navy and Army, brought out a good number of competitors. The prizes were $30 $20, $15, and $10. Mathews and Halsey (dead heat), of the *Daphne*, came in first, and the first and second prizes were divided between them. The third prize was awarded to Davies, of the R.W.F., and the fourth to Turney, of the *Daphne*.

Two blue-jackets came in first and second in the pony race open to the Navy and Army, their names being Burgess and Purchase.

A tug-of-war open to teams from the Navy, Army, and Police was won by the Royal Engineers, the *Orlando* men being second.

The programme also included a jinrickeha race, which was most amusing.

According to the Kobe papers, a young Chinaman named Ki Ching, employed on the *Breconshire*, committed suicide on board on the 3rd inst. The man only signed on while the steamer was at Hongkong. The informal enquiry made by he Police merely elicited the fact that the unfortunate man locked himself up in one of the rooms on board and took his own life.

A Seoul dispatch to the *Osaka Asahi* states:—"The survey of the sections between Fusan and Raizan and Seoul and Tompo, at both ends of the Seoul-Fusan Railway, having now been completed, Mr. Takenouchi, one of the promoters, now at Seoul, will inspect the lines on the 8th inst. The section from Tompo to Raizan will be surveyed after the work of construction of the line from the two ends is started.

THE MURDER OF AN INDIAN SOLDIER.

"WILFUL MURDER AGAINST A PERSON OR PERSONS UNKNOWN."

THE POLICE COMPLIMENTED.

At the Magistracy on the 11th inst. Mr. Gompertz continued his enquiry into the death of Private Fukier Khan, of the Hongkong Regiment, whose body was found buried near the shooting-range at Kowloon.

Private Raj Wali, who occupied the same section room as the deceased, said he remembered the night the deceased disappeared. It was on the 11th March. He was on line duty from 9-45 p.m. till midnight. His orders were to patrol the front of the Barracks and to visit the back every half hour. While he was on duty he did not see any one pass him either going in or coming out of the Barracks. He saw the deceased in the section room at nine o'clock at night, but he did not see him when he went out for duty at 9 45 p.m., as the room was then in darkness. He had not been told to conceal anything he saw that night. He could not say whether Fukier Khan was in the room when he came off duty—at midnight, as all was dark.

Private Sherraf Din, who was on duty from midnight on the 11th March till two o'clock the following morning, said that during that time no one passed him either going in or coming out. The deceased was in his section He last saw him at roll-call at 9 p.m. The deceased's bed was the fourth from his in the opposite row. He could not say whether the deceased was in bed when he went on duty or when he returned, as it was work and he did not make a light.

Private Saifullah Khan was the next witness.

His Worship informed him that other men in the regiment had said that he was seen in the company of the deceased on the night he disappeared, and in view of the possibility of a charge being made against him he need not answer any question asked of him if he did not wish to do so.

Witness said he knew the deceased. He last saw him at 4 p.m. on the 11th March. It was not true that he was talking to the deceased between nine and ten o'clock on the night of the 11th. Witness did not leave his section room after seven o'clock on the night of the 11th March.

Asked whether he was on good terms with deceased, witness replied that he was neither a good friend nor an enemy of the deceased. They had never had a quarrel about any money.

His Worship said he would now close the enquiry, which had been held at various intervals during the last six weeks He did not think it would be profitable to protract it any longer, because he thought all the available evidence was exhausted. If at any future time any further evidence was forthcoming the guilty persons would be brought to trial. He would return a verdict of wilful murder against a person or persons unknown. He might say that he considered that the case had been well worked up by the police, and by the Inspector in charge (Inspector Macdonald), and the officers of the regiment seemed to have afforded every facility for enquiry. He thought it was extremely discreditable that in a regiment of this sort, where there must be many men well aware who the guilty parties were, that nothing more could be done to bring these parties to justice. The murder appeared to have been a most cold-blooded one.

Shanghai papers report a slight altercation as occuring on the Off-Day of the Spring Race Meeting. The programme contained these words:—"Stewards suggest that owners should not allow mafoos to use whips in this race," that is the Mafoos' Race; and all the owners but one adopted the suggestion. The one in question handed a whip to his mafoo as he was proceeding on to the Course, whereupon one of the stewards interfered. There was a heated discussion, but the mafoo eventually carried the whip—and did not win. The quarrel arose owing to the ambiguity of the "suggestion," which the owner held, not unreasonably, did not amount to command.

THE THEFT FROM THE DALLAS COMPANY.

APPLICATION FOR THE RESTITUTION OF THE PROPERTY.

At the Magistracy on the 12th inst., before Mr. Gompertz, Mr. Reece made an application on behalf of Miss Hetty Peel and Miss Florence Peel for the restitution of certain property belonging to them, which had been stolen and pawned without their authority. He said his clients were perfectly innocent in this transaction. They left the property locked up in the custody of a person who had no authority to pawn it or to part with it in any way. They were not a party to an illegal transaction, and assuming the pawnbroker to be innocent he of two innocent persons must suffer. It was one of the risks of his business. He asked for the property to be returned to his clients without compensation.

Miss Hetty Peel said she was a member of the Dallas Company. She and her sister arrived in Hongkong in March last and took rooms connected with Thomas's Grill Rooms—across the street. She asked for the manager, and a Mr. Cowen came and said he was the manager. She took the rooms from him. Mr. Cowen made out their bills, and she paid him. He was the only man she saw. He said he was the manager, and the whole of her transactions were with him. He signed the receipts, and as far as she knew he was the manager. She did not know when she left Hongkong that he was not the manager. She and her sister paid everything which was due before they left. They left towards the end of March. When they had packed up their presents—including a good many silver articles—Mr. Cowen begged them to leave them behind, as he said they would have to pay duty on them at Manila, where they were going. They accordingly left the articles locked up in his care, intending to take possession of them again on their return to Hongkong. She wrote to Mr. Cowen from Manila, but he did not answer her letter. When she returned to Hongkong on Monday morning she found that her box had been opened and a large quantity of articles taken. She found that Mr. Cowen had gone away and she saw Mr. Goodchild. It was not until then that she knew that Mr. Goodchild was the manager. She reported the matter to the police and furnished them with a list of the missing articles. She identified the property produced as belonging to herself or sister with the exception of a cigarette case, which she presented to Mr. Cowen.

Inspector Cuthbert said that on the previous Monday, in consequence of information received, he went to the Tau On pawnship at 81, Wellington street, and on that day and on the 9th took away the articles produced.

Tung Tung Ping, accountant at the pawnshop in question, said that the other day the police came to the shop and took away a lot of things. He received these things in pawn from a white man who was accompanied by another white man. They were pawned at different times. He lent $140 on them, that being their full pawnable value. He estimated their saleable value at $160.

In reply to Mr. Reece, witness said he asked the name of the European who pawned the articles, and the name of Jones was given. He had never seen him before. He did not ask the name of the other white man. He did not know who he was, but he had seen him before. He said he was secretary at Thomas's Grill Rooms.

Mr. Looker submitted that this was clearly a case in which compensation should be ordered. There was not the slightest doubt, according to the uncontradicted evidence of the previous witness, that these things were pawned after due enquiry had been made. The mere fact of their being pawned by a European was in itself in a colony like this some guarantee of the *bona fides* of the transaction. There was nothing suspicious about the affair, and he submitted that his client was fully justified in lending the money on them without making further enquiries. He asked His Worship to make an order for the delivery of the articles on payment of $140 to the pawnbroker and interest.

His Worship said he thought the pawnbroker acted reasonably in this matter, seeing that the things were brought to him by a white man. Unfortunately Mr. Cowen had absconded, but he would make an order for the return of the goods on payment of the amount—$140—for which they were pawned, without interest.

SUPPOSED SUICIDE BY AN AMERICAN.

FOUND DEAD AT THE PEAK.

There has been sent to the public mortuary the body of a European, since identified as that of Mr. A. W. Upton, a native of America. He recently resided in Yokohama and Shanghai, and before then was in Manila. The body was found in Chamberlain Road at the Peak. There was a gun-shot wound in the head, apparently self-inflicted. A six-chambered revolver with one chamber discharged was found between the legs of the deceased.

If appeared subsequently that Mr. Upton had been staying in Room No. 33, at the Hongkong Hotel, since the 6th inst. A letter addressed to Yokohama was found in his room with the words in pencil "Mail to Yokohama." On the letter being opened it was found that the deceased meditated suicide, as he bade "good-bye" to the person to whom the letter was addressed. The deceased had been engaged as a commission agent. He was, however, evidently in want of funds, and this may have been the reason why he took his life. No banking account was discovered among his possesions, and not a cent was found either on his person or in his boxes, while his hotel bill had not been paid.

THE THEATRE.

On the 12th inst. before a very large audience the Dallas Company played the Drury Lane pantomime "The Babes in the Wood." The opportunity of witnessing a pantomime is rare in Hongkong, though it may be said to have been out of season and the harliquinade was lacking; nevertheless, it was immensely appreciated by the large number of juveniles and their parents present. The two "babes" were Messrs. Dallas and Hermann—somewhat overgrown and precocious and intensely funny. The part of the schoolmistress was ably taken by Mr. Ferrell—who had evidently studied Dan Leno's make up and facial expressions. Mr. Munro made an excellent Baron, whilst the Sisters Prel were charming in their respective parts. Many songs were given, "What Ho! She Bumps" being a great favourite. The piece went off splendidly and all who took part deserve much credit. The scenery surprised many. In several instances it was quite elaborate, and the scene in the wood and the Race Course brought forth well-deserved applause. The costumes were elegant and considering the trouble in production it is to be regretted the company cannot give another performance.

The Company produced "The French Maid" on the 14th inst. for the first time in Hongkong before a very good house. There were some very good items in the piece, Miss Florence Peel and Messrs. Dallas and Hermann carrying off chief honours. The "twins" duet between the two latter was an undoubted triumph and the audience insisted on several encores. The song is a very clever one and the dance at the end is most taking.

On the 15th inst. the Company gave their farewell performance at the Theatre, *The French Maid* being repeated and showing a great improvement on Monday's entertainment. At the close of the piece, which was heartily received, Mr. Dallas was called before the curtain and said that he hoped to return next March. The evening wound up with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" and "God Save the Queen." Part of the company, including Mr. and Mrs. Dallas and Mr. Hermann, left on the 16th, while others are staying for a few days more.

The North China Daily News says:—"The police generally, and Inspector Armstrong in purticular, are to be heartily congratulated on their clever capture of Chang Chang-wo, the leader of the Pootung dacoits." He was captured on the 4th inst. in company with another of the band. The Mixed Court ordered that the prisoners should be sent to the City, where the principal, it is said, will undoubtedly be decapitated.

ENTERTAINMENT AT THE CLUB LUSITANO.

A few Portuguese ladies and gentlemen amateurs gave a theatrical performance on the 12th instant in the magnificent hall of the above Club in aid of the Indian Famine Fund. In spite of the oppressive heat and the counter-attraction by the Dallas Company a large and appreciative audience was present to witness a very entertaining programme. The two comediettas were performed in capital style, which bore witness to very careful rehearsing, and the various characters were ably sustained. The promoters are to be congratulated on the success achieved in a most deserving cause. The following was the programme:—

"*Por Causa D'um Algarismo.*"
Comedy in one act.

Mestre Igreja, sapateiro..... Sr. Alvaro Alvares.
Dorothea Marmelada, sua mulher ... ...
Sra. D. Maria Guedes.
Rosalina Marmelada, sua filha ... ...
Sra. D. Kate da Silva Guimaraes.
Ambrosio, sachristão, exquisito .. ..
Sr. Marcellino da Silva Guimaraes.
No. 9, soldado de Infanteria 7 ... ...
Sr. Porphyrio Nolasco da Silva.
Collaço, confeiteiro ... ...Sr. Luiz Alvares.

Violin solo by Sr. Lourenço A. Graça, accompaied on the piano by Maestro Galluzzii.

"*Enganos E Lloucuras.*"
Musical farce in one act,
Music arranged by Sr. Albano A. Cardeiro.

Doutor Caetano da Silva Gil.. Sr. Jorge Kraal.
Gertrudes, sua filha ...Sra. D. Maria Guedes.
Eduardo Gambôa ... ...
Sr. Porphyrio Nolasco da Silva.
Simplicio Lobão ... ...
Sr. Marcellino da Silva Guimaraes.
Vicente Camello... ... ...Sr. Alvaro Alvare

THE BOTANICAL AND AFFORESTATION REPORT.

From the Report of the Superintendent of the Botanical and Afforestation Department for 1899 we make the following brief extracts:—

REVENUE.

The receipts were in excess of those in 1893. The total receipts were:—

From plant sales	$ 626.60
„ loan of plants	223.71
„ forestry products	708.14
Total.....	$1,558.45

BOTANIC GARDENS.

Experiments—Exhaustive experiments were made with Jadoo fibre (and liquid) which has been highly recommended as a substance in which plants may be grown either entirely or mixed with the usual composts, but the results do not offer any encouragement to continue its use for any purpose whatever.

Plant Sales—Two thousand eight hundred and ten (2,810) plants were sold and they realized $626.60 only, a very slight reduction on the previous year's sales, although the sale of plants to places outside the Colony was discontinued. Orders for plants from the Coast Ports of China and other foreign places had increased so much that it was found necessary in the latter part of the previous year to discontinue supplying plants outside the colony, otherwise local requirements could not have been met.

FORESTRY.

Planting to the extent of 54,582 trees has been continued in the island and Kowloon in ten different localities and in various new and old roads where trees would thrive. There are some roads, especially in Kowloon, which are wide and treeless and which it might, without consideration, be thought might be planted, but which really afford no promise of success, either on account of exposure, unsuitable soil, or other reasons.

THINNING OF PLANTATIONS.

This work has been carried on in twelve localities ranging over the whole colony; 45,411 trees were removed and they sold for $666.86. The total net revenue for forestry was $708.14. All thinnings which have been made to date for many years past are only the smallest and worst

trees to allow free growth to the better ones which remain.

PROTECTIVE SERVICE.

The year has seen a further reduction in the numbers of illicit tree cutting, only 640 trees having been reported. The number of cases brought forward by forest guards was only 25, of which there were 24 convictions.

FIRES.

I am not able to report so favourably of grass fires. These were very numerous and destructive. The total number of fires was 52, which destroyed 13,229 trees, compared with 27 and 3,285, respectively, in the previous year. The m at destructive fire was on Mount Davis on March 19th; this killed 8,448 trees, some of them in gullies being of good size. Twenty out of the 52 fires did no harm beyond burning grass.

FIRE BARRIERS.

Fifty-three miles of old barriers were cleaned and 6¼ miles of new ones were made. Low combustible vegetation having grown higher than formerly in many places I had all the barriers which were only 10 feet wide increased to 15 feet, which affords greater security in preventing fires leaping the bared lines.

NEW TERRITORY.

Soon after the New Territory was taken over I commenced a series of journeys, which were continued as occasion allowed, over the whole territory to acquire information on all points in which this department might be called upon to operate in its special functions. It was found that tree planting was required around the various new police stations and the buildings occupied by Europeans at Taipo, and that tree planting could also be done with advantage in other places. Operations were therefore commenced in October for planting about 80,000 trees during the ensuing year. His Excellency the Governor when travelling in the territory came to the conclusion after seeing the sugar cane growing there that new varieties of cane might be introduced, and at His Excellency's request I have made arrangements for new varieties of cane to be obtained from different countries, some of which have arrived and been planted near Ha Tsun. His Excellency also obtained two Chatanooga Sugar Mills which this department had fixed in the New Territory and exhibited the working of to the sugar-growers there. The advantages these mills possess over the Native mills may lead to their extended introduction. I have also obtained improved varieties of pine-apple plants from Ceylon which will be useful introductions to the districts where pine-apples are now cultivated to a considerable extent. The best fruits from the New Territory are now brought over to Hongkong and canned at a factory at West Point. The New Territory has features which show possibilities of considerable development in forestry and kindred work, but these matters cannot be fittingly dealt with in an Annual Report of work done; they, however, should receive best and early attention in another way.

JAPAN'S THIRD NAVAL EXPANSION SCHEME.

In view of the immense augmentation of the naval forces, either contemplated or already put into execution by the great Powers, it is reported that the Japan Naval authorities are about to enter on the third naval extension programme, as it is termed in contradistinction to the two programmes already carried out. Probably the estimates will be submitted to the fifteenth Diet. The interest accruing on the naval fund amounts to three million yen per annum. This sum is to be augmented by two million yen from the Treasury and thus five million yen will be yearly devoted to the scheme—a sum just sufficient to cover one-third the cost of a battleship, provided the price of steel and other materials remains at the present rate. But the chances are that the materials will increase in price year after year, and by the time fifteen million yen is collected it will be found inadequate for defraying the cost. Such is the opinion held by naval experts, and men like Admiral Inouye accordingly recommend the construction of torpedo destroyers. This class of boat costs about half a million yen, so that thirty destroyers can be built for the price of one battleship. The recent naval manœuvres clearly demonstrated their efficiency; in fact, it has been clearly proved that even a battleship would have small chance of escape if attacked by a number of destroyers. The torpedo store-ship, which was to be built according to the second programme, was abandoned for similar reasons, and more destroyers will be built instead. It is anticipated that the third programme will authorise the construction of torpedo-boat destroyers only.

JAPANESE IMMIGRATION IN THE UNITED STATES.

Up to this point, says a Washington despatch, nothing has been done by the Washington authorities in regard to the restriction on the immigration of Japanese into the United States beyond the application of the contract labour laws. The enforcement of these laws is entrusted to the officials of the Treasury Department, and so far as is known they have not discovered any movement towards the bringing into the United States of Japanese coolies under labour contracts. They are not, however, authorised to interfere with the incoming of the Japanese who can satisfy the requirements of the laws in the matter of freedom from contract obligation and ability to maintain themselves. It is believed that, unlike other Orientals, few Japanese, even of the labouring classes, fail to make a sufficient showing on these points to pass muster and secure admission at the Golden Gate. Although the recent reports from San Francisco of the arrival at the port of considerable numbers of Japanese labourers, taken in connection with the steady increase of the Japanese population of the Hawaiian islands, has attracted the attention of the executive branch of the Government, it is said that even supposing the presence of the Japanese should be regarded as undesirable, the subject of restriction is entirely beyond executive reach at present, being one for the consideration of Congress. The figures of the immigration bureaus of the Pacific Coast are, however, being closely watched; for upon their showing may depend important recommendations upon this subject.

A JACOBITE RELIC IN SHANGHAI.

Goodness only knows how it got here, says The *Shanghai Daily Press*, but there was dug up a few days ago from the bottom of a mouldy old mass of half-forgotton papers, books and miscellaneous articles, hidden away in the strong-room of the British Consulate of Shanghai, a genuine and highly interesting relic of Prince Charles Edward Stuart, the Young Pretender. It was a handsome white metal "tea-caddy," which, an ancient looking piece of parchment enclosed within stated to have been the identical receptacle in which the unfortunate Prince carried his tea, whenever he was lucky enough to have any, throughout the dark year 1746 when he was being hunted through the Highlands and Western Isles after the fatal field of Culloden. The parchment further relates that the caddy was originally the property of Flora Macdonald, the heroic sharer of the Prince's vicissitudes and adventures. It stands about eight inches high, is of a handsome fluted pattern, and is inscribed with Flora Macdonald's monogram on the cover. It no doubt formed part here of some "deceased estate," which the Consulate administered, and, most likely, got shoved aside and forgotten. It is now in the possession of Mr. T. Macdonald, Usher and Clerk of the Summary Court, who will be glad to show it to the curious in such matters, and who, we understand, if the relic is not claimed, intends to send it home to some Scottish antiquarian society.

In spite of the hopefulness of the early rumours the prospects in the gold mining industry in Hokkaido are now reported from Japan to be doubtful. There has been a remarkable increase in the number of gold-seekers this year, and tens of thousands of men are leaving for the district. A reliable report has it now, however, that the quantity of gold washed in the island was not so great as have been stated. Some three hundred men had left the district as they could not get along, and besides, several hundreds are in a poverty-stricken condition.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Macao, 11th May.

The arms-dealers of this colony are very busily engaged again in pressing upon the Government their petition that the Government Council here should request the authorities at your port to allow exportation of arms to Macao. The honourable members of the Government Council are too serious to permit the illicit trade to be carried on during the time of their administration. The public in general knows that the business of arms is not a genuine and honest one. It is, however, a pleasure to be able to say that the principal or only culprit in this matter, to whom it was owing that arms were imported and exported in such great quantities, has now gone and will return no more, leaving it to the Council to make up for the past. It is gratifying too to be able to say that the members of the Government Council know what to do, and at least it is a case of "better late than never." The reason why I call the arms business (only in this colony) an illicit one is easy to explain. The so-called arms-dealers who import most into this colony have not got an open door, and arms whether imported or exported do not pass under the name of the firm; the business is done by means of a kind of broker. Yet if the business were a fair one, why should it not be carried on openly? Much more, they pay about $30 yearly for their licence. It is hard to believe, but it is true that they are promising to any person who can get them permission to export arms from Hongkong to this colony fifty cents on every weapon, whereas about a year and a half ago it was twenty-five cents each. The expenses are very great, and I give a table which will furnish an approximate idea of them:—

Shop licence for one year	$ 30
Cost of dealing in dangerous articles (say)	20
Arms as soon as they reach Macao must go to the Government depot (Camoens Grotto) and pay 10 cents each for a month or part of a month. If they arrive on the 30th of any month and go out on the 1st or 2nd of the next month, this counts two months and they have to pay 20 cents each. So that if a man deposits 1,000 arms, say for two days, he has to pay	100
Licence from the Government Office to bring the arms, to the depot, at one cent each, say on 1,000 rifles	10
Licence from the same office to take out the arms from the depot also at one cent each, say on 1,000 rifles	10
Commissions to brokers to get permission, at 25 cents (though they are now offering 50 cents)	250
Payment to smugglers and presents to same for non-interference with transports during dark nights, etc.	?

If this business is a fair one it could easily be prosecuted openly, and could be done by the dealers themselves, thus saving commission to brokers, etc., and a lot more money and trouble. The Government Council should stop this business altogether during the time their administration continues. When the time comes for a revolution in China the Government Council will then be able to say that they did not help the revolutionists by letting them have arms and ammunition either to fight their own Government or anyone else. No doubt twenty thousand or more firearms have been supplied, but that was in the past; for the future the authorities should and must cut at the root of the matter.

The plague continues so bad that the Chinese community is now having recourse to night processions to the temples to pray for health. Some good may come of this, because those going about in the streets get fresh air, and secondly because joss sticks and crackers are burning everywhere. But, nevertheless, the time has come to take the matter up properly, to spread the inhabitants in more houses and to do away with the houses in the dirtiest quarters of the city. If this is not done, we shall have the plague with us all the year round.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 12th May

A branch of the Commercial Bureau is by order of the Viceroy extended to Swatow, of which the *t'otai* Wongkung is appointed president, and Sam Sow Lün director to look after local trade.

As I said in my last letter the *lekin* monopoly is already granted and will begin to work on the 5th day of the 5th moon the 1st June. One half of the million taels that was paid is to be applied to the cost of building the railway between Yunnan and Saigon. It is said that H.E. Li Hung-chang will use his influence with the Tsungli yamen to revise and increase the customs duties upon goods imported and exported by foreign nations.

A monopoly of the Canton lottery, called "The Chung Wo Lottery Company of Canton," is farmed out to the Wing Fung Company, the monopolists of the Wuishing lottery, for $60,000 per annum; and a notification having been issued by the Board of Reorganisation, the farmers have brought the machinery, preparatory to opening the lottery in Canton. They are much the same people as the monopolists of the Macao lottery.

A steam launch, the *Sanchow* had a collision with the gunboat *Sikiang* at Taipingshi and caused some injury to her. Upon her commandant petitioning the Viceroy, the launch was ordered to pay for repair of damages.

A certain Mr. V. Dodd having imported from Hongkong to Canton ten cases of tinfoil and sent them under transit pass to Chan Chuin, Fung Sui Lan and others, probably belonging to the tinfoil guild, forcibly robbed and carried away the cargo, and set fire to the godown. Thereupon the British Consul in a despatch brought this case to the notice of H.E. the Viceroy. H.E. ordered an enquiry. Upon a petition of the Kun In shop of the guild of tinfoil merchants to the *lekin* Bureau the authority thereof asked: "Although this tinfoil was sent under transit pass, why did the merchant break the rule by evading the payment of *lekin* taxes? Why did he make a clandestine sale, and cause the wrongful party to be arrested?" The Magistrate of the San Tak district was directed to report further thereon.

An American missionary lady who went on travel to Sai Chiu was insulted and pelted by the mob in the village of Kunshan. So also in Canton, when a foreigner goes into the city, he is invariably greeted with the term "Kill the foreign devil." Once when an American gentleman and a lady went into the city to see the temple of the 500 genii they were similarly treated and insulted, and it was brought to the notice of the late Viceroy Tan, who replied that it was always the case, and he could not have any control over the mob

For some time past nothing has been heard of the brigand chiefs, Fuchun Hoi and Ao Sun, of the district of Saichiu, although a heavy reward was promised and strict orders given for their apprehension. Where they are and what they have been doing no one knew, until at last they turned up again in the district of Kuk Kong, somewhere in the north of Kwang-tung, where, associated with another rebel chief, by name Cheong Heong-wa, they enlisted under their banner a great number of local banditti and disbanded troops of the late Viceroy Tan. They have their insignia and flags and are armed with rapid-firing guns of modern-make. Sometime last month they had a fight with the black flag soldiers, who were outnumbered and obliged to beat a retreat. Another account says that the rebel chiefs have fled to Kwangsi to gather more troops with a view to marching right into Kwangtung.

A coolie who was busily engaged in cooking rice in the cook-house attached to a mat-shed in Kennedy road, near the Union Church, had a surprise on Wednesday. The cook-house is not far from the edge of a nullah. The recent heavy rains had apparently loosened the earth in the vicinity, for the earth slipped and part of the cook-house was thrown into the nullah, the coolie and his rice and fire going with it. He was bruised and burned, but not seriously.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

OVERCROWDING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Sir,—This subject embraces the third and last division of the thoughtful and important—at least to all those who are interested in the permanent well-being of this Colony—lecture recently delivered by Mr. H. E. Pollock, and is susceptible of a very great amount of remark and suggestion, a little of which I propose to devote this letter to. That the subject is grave, indeed the gravest—for it embraces the plague question to a great extent—of those voiced by Mr. Pollock, no one will, I imagine, dispute; and that it calls for immediate and active attention is as little doubtful. To it, I would venture to assert, is to be in the main attributed the first and most serious of the outbreaks of plague which have, in recent years, afflicted this Colony, and to its solution can unhesitatingly be attributed in advance the cure of those troubles which at present afflict the municipal existence of this Colony. In dealing with it merely shortly, as I must do in this letter, I propose to adhere to the order in which I have already set two words touching it, that is to say, first, "remark," and secondly, "suggestion."

In the first place, to deal with Mr. Pollock's remarks on the first of the subjects which his address embodied, viz:—the plague question—which is so intrinsically interwoven with the third of his subjects as to render it extremely difficult of clear divisibility from it—there can, I assume, be but little question in the minds of those possessing a practical acquaintance with the City of Victoria itself, that a condemnation of a not inconsiderable number of the streets and lanes in it is, in truth, though a drastic, almost a necessary process in the eradication of the evil of which they constitute the source, and, when the necessity for such condemnation arises, as it is sufficiently well known that it does, primarily from the congested state of the occupants of the premises pertaining to these streets and lanes, it is unquestionable that the attraction of a very considerable increase to the lower and working class of the population, through the inauguration of new works and new industries, must be a source of grave apprehension to all, even though there may exist a divergence of opinion as to the most satisfactory manner of dealing with it; especially in view of the fact that the bulk of those who are drawn to the Colony in such a manner, although ostensibly for temporary periods, as a rule remain here permanently. That the suggestion of housing such augmentations to the population outside of the limits of the City itself is the most suitable or convenient method of dealing with it, is, however, one which I shall venture to controvert for the reasons hereafter shortly stated. That there is in existence at the present time a very marked, and, at least up to the present, increasing enhancement in the recognised value of what may be called real property in the Colony generally is undoubted; though I might question if the word "boom" is, strictly speaking, correctly applicable to it, implying, as it does, something of the bubble nature; probably it is more correct to say that landed property is genuinely and intrinsically rising in value at the present time, not accidentally, but apace with the increased prosperity of our trade and the colony generally, assisted, no doubt, by the origin of the very subject that I am now writing of, and by the fact that such property cannot now, with the very rapidly increased flow of money through the Colony, be allowed to yield the return derived from it in former years. Those of us who have most experience of this class of property appreciate well that it is only of very recent years that it has been touching its real and true value and that, prior to this, it endured a very serious depression, in conjunction with our trade and the Colony generally, but perhaps of a greater duration. I believe the only ground of fear that this existing increase in value might give rise to be that due to doubts as to whether gambling may not supervene upon investment; to paraphrase Mr. Pollock by adopting these words, steps are necessary to prevent this, and can and may be taken if those who should take them are given but that assistance that it is the duty of Government to give them. But to answer his query, I venture to think that Mr. Pollock's assumption that the remedy which the Home Government has attempted in its own case is neither the most natural nor the most suitable remedy in our case, chiefly because private enterprise, apart from the examples of philanthropy impersonated by such as Lord Rowton and Lord Iveagh and their like, in such a line in England is, broadly, without the scope of individualism, nor does the necessity or desirability exist that it should be otherwise in a young and rising Colony such as this, where it must be *prima facié* to its general benefit that individualism should receive that support and encouragement which it merits, especially from the Government itself, rather than be outweighed and crushed by a public Trust, or other state competition; and individualism is capable of dealing with this matter, if the Government will but assist it in its efforts.

In concluding these few remarks which I have ventured to make on Mr. Pollock's address, I cannot pass by his observations on the subject of landlords, which I conceive to be in no way inimical to that class, without a few words. It is, as we all know, a common and oft-repeated practice to look upon, and speak of, the landlord as if he were a composition of modern Gorgon and Shylock, or to picture him in the guise of the caricatures of the great American trusts which from time to time we see in such papers as *Puck* or *Judge*. I am sure, though, that those who have an unbiassed acquaintance with him, the Director of Public Work, say, for example, would give a very different view of him. Can it be supposed that if house property were the gold-mine so many seem to consider it that it would long be permitted to remain so, or that the very overcrowding which we all so freely recognise would not be speedily remedied by the upgrowth of a supply more nearly capable of meeting the demand? How often, in retort to such like remarks anent them as were contained in one of your evening contemporary's leading article of a week ago, do we hear the landlord's complaints upon the enormous increase put upon the upset price and rents of Crown land, the cost of actual building and labour, and the trouble and difficulty in dealing with the contractor and his men and in keeping the former to his due dates?

To proceed to my second heading, I come to the few suggestions that I would put forward in connection with the subject of this letter. In order to distinguish and separate these the more clearly I will deal with them in paragraphs as follows:—

(*a.*) The Sanitary Board should be given powers by Government with the approval of the Director of Public Works,—in that capacity, as distinguished from, what I may term, his fortuitous capacity as a member of the Board—to condemn and order the demolition and removal of such streets, lanes and blocks of houses, or other premises, which may be considered necessary or desirable, either from the difficulty or impossibility, either on account of position, description or otherwise, facts that their existence is a menace to the well being of those, more especially, who live in their neighbourhood, and that the room occupied by them is unquestionably sorely needed by the genuine and more orderly portion of our population; and this latter argument is keenly applicable to the continued endurance of any of the disorderly houses, whether covertly so or otherwise, in the central and nearly central portions of the city. Apart from the somewhat unpractical views of extreme Puritanism, it cannot but be generally recognised that these houses must exist in some shape or form in this colony—more is the pity that the powers that then were did not equally recognise it, when one of the greatest blunders in our social well-being was committed by the doing away with the Government inspection and supervision of such houses, in the face of the opposition of such men as the late Dr. Ayres, who was undoubtedly one of the most competent and experienced judges of the desirability and necessity of it—but what is more satisfactory than that the Government should thoroughly complete the

work has begun, and to assign the entirety of these houses to the extreme western district, which is in every way the most suitable location for them both from its possession, the amplitude of room, and its present comparatively unoccupied condition?

It may perhaps be thought that the point which I am now advancing is not of much moment, for the reason that the carrying out of it would effect but little relief, where great relief is needed; but let me ask those who fancy this to ascertain from the quarters where such information is derivable, the true extent of the numbers inhabiting the houses referred to, and the numbers of houses that would be thus vacated, and they may have cause to alter their ideas.

Very many reasons, and most of them patent ones, could be advanced in support of this present suggestion; I will take but that of bringing the same up to a certain recognised sanitary level. In addition I would advocate the granting of certain further powers to enable the Board, with such approval as aforesaid, to obtain the demolition and removal of any particular premises, or set of premises, the removal of which appears necessary or desirable for the sake of the other premises in the same neighbourhood; this, at first sight, may seem somewhat sweeping, but I would intend to confine my meaning to the cases, which certainly exist where the removal of one or two, or a few, premises would, from their particular position, appreciably and materially enhance the healthiness of the other premises in the immediate surrounding. It is true that these suggestions would in all probability entail the question of compensation. That question, however, has been before, and must again, if necessary, be met.

(*b.*) The creation of more room in the city itself by the better regulation of the occupancy of various parts of it. To particularise, I mean by the removal of the very large number of disorderly houses which exist in our midst. It may be said that this has been, or is being, done. True it is that Government measures have been, and are being, adopted with the view of causing the removal of a large number of the inhabitants of such houses from the more or less central possessions which they have lately occupied to certain districts in the western portion of the town; but it is, I submit, not enough. There exist at the present time streets full of such houses and numbers of other houses that are covertly of a similar nature. I am aware that there are reasons adducible why some of these premises should be allowed to continue their existance in the eastern portion of the town, but we may be permitted to doubt the sufficiency of these reasons when opposed to them are the one case of No. 2 Health district, in which recently certain streets have been given over for habitation as disorderly houses, necessitaing —since the occupiers of these houses will pay rents, that the orderly population cannot yield— the former inhabitants finding accomodation in other premises in the neighbourhood, and so increasing the overcrowding, with the result that this district was the first to be declared by the Sanitary Board as infected with plague, and house-to-house visitation ordered.

(*c*) The encouragement of building operations, especially of a certain class; and, in this connection, the sale and rental by Government at a *reasonable* rate of lands for that purpose. The Acting Colonial Secretary has stated that the Governor, no doubt for good and sufficient reasons, will not support the formation of the Trust which has been proposed, which I assume, means that, in consequence, such a thing will not come into existence, and possibly the reasons which I have above suggested influenced His Excellency in coming to such a decision. Be that as it may, however, if Government is not, as apparently it is not, disposed to relieve the present congestion by undertaking building to a considerable extent on its own account, it does behove it to assist by all the means in its powers such private enterprise as is obtainable in that direction. Does it do so? The answer must be distinctly "No"; consider for a moment the upset prices and Crown rentals that have been affixed to sale of Crown land in recent years, in a small minority of instances, possibly, within reason, but in a great majority of cases entirely prohibitive of the possibility of such building as is necessary to give the real relief that is required. Surely the stinting, sord, money-accumulating part that is being played by our Government in these present days cannot appeal to any serious mind that appreciates the existing necessities of the colony; it is but recently that the very weighty—coming from whence it did—complaint was made that our public works were being starved. But that is not all. Our public requirements of yet more pressing and urgent nature are being treated even worse. It would seem that so long as thriving reports go home showing increased prosperity, greater income and less expenditure, the Imperial Government asks no more of its Administrators, and gives no heed to the complaints, that must at times reach, even thus far, of a short sighted policy, the needs of a colony year by year increasing in importance and call for consideration, and the allegation that the investment of our present returns in Colonial requirements will conduce to the greater well-being of the colony in the future.

In this connection it is indeed encouraging to learn from the Secretary of State's depatch of the 16th February last that he fully concurs in, at least a part of, the views expressed in the memoranda forwarded from certain of the Unofficial members of Council, but, at the same time, is unable to concur in the expenditure of the funds required for carrying out those views.

The Colonial Government has a remedy that would very greatly meet the present wants, if it will but exercise it; let it announce that it is prepared to sell its lands freely, at reasonable and frugal prices; let it fix such upset prices and annual rentals as will constitute an inducement to private enterprise to come forward and carry out the building that is required; and, by all means, let it make special conditions on such sales, regulating the class of houses that may be erected and the class of occupants permitted and also the rentals that may be charged. And, upon these terms, I venture to assert that the private enterprise to carry out all this would not be found wanting.

(*d*) My last suggestion is of a somewhat different nature to its predecessors and rather made with a view to the prevention of the possibility of any similar, or of the increase in the existing, state of affairs as is now prevailing in regard to our sanitary economics. It is that our sanitary staff and its duties should be properly and efficiently remodled and put upon such a basis as will enable it to carry out the objects and aims of its existence in a thorough and enlightened manner. I say this with all due respect for the existing Board and staff, and the work they do; and I would give all credit to the personnel of that body. But more must be done. When men of the practical experience of Mr. May and Mr. Osborne, not to mention others, allege that the sanitary staff of the colony is entirely insufficient and overtaxed, from the highest to the lowest, and that, in addition to the increase in it which they consider imperative, a somewhat liberal measure of municipal life should be brought into existence, surely the bulk of the populace must feel that they are right, and equally surely it is the duty of our Government to give them the attention they deserve. It is difficult to credit that serious representations on such a subject made by a Governor who was really interested in the carrying out of what must be known to be the desires of the colony, and the due and liberal administration of its affairs, would meet with that cool reception from the Colonial Office which the Acting Colonial Secretary and His Excellency the General would seem to suggest, but if such were, in truth, the case, it serves to show the futility of our Officials telling us that nothing can be done without public opinion, when those who act through them accord that opinion such reception.

Finally I will close this with a few further remarks. I do not believe that Mr. Pollock's suggestion that the Government should relieve the existing pressure by considerable operations on the model building plan outside the city limits feasible in this Colony. It is possible that it might do in the case of the lands required for the proposed Naval Yard works, given that the premises, and the means of transport to and fro, await the men on their influx here. But I venture to seriously question whether the bulk of the ever increasing working population here can be induced to live anywhere than centrally, where such living is by any means, however unhealthy, possible. Take for instance the Eastern and Western ends of the city, especially the latter, where a large number of premises suitable for housing the working class have for a long time remained unoccupied for the reason that their situation is too remote from the centre of the possible occupant's work. I believe it is necessary to find the room as centrally as possible and I have ventured to indicate the possible means of doing so. As Mr. Francis remarked, the Government should step in in the present crisis— for so it is, or shortly will be—in some shape or form, and, if that form is not to be an actual remedial measure of its own, it shouldat least extend (amongst other things) to the giving of the fullest encouragement to those who are to take those measures for it.

I am, sir,
Yours obediently.
LEX.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Sir,—That some one has blundered there is not the slightest doubt. No. 2 District, mentioned by your Correspondent "LEX," had been for a considerable time past overcrowded to such an extent that an increase of 50 per cent. in the rental failed to find a single floor vacant; and adding insult to injury the Government have thought fit to cause the poor tenants of the whole of certain streets to remove in order to make room for disorderly houses or brothels. Where did the tenants of these streets find room? Of course, in the already congested area of the same district or a little further east. They were not in a position to occupy the tenements given up by those who have taken up their houses, on account of the high rental. Apart from the policy of sending these houses to this District (for pleasure-seekers on going along Praya East and Queen's Road West in the evening, are now and then greeted by painted faces), where will the Sanitary Board find room for those unfortunate mortals who have to be cleared away from those tenements which come under the provisions of the new bye-laws that will come into effect on the 1st of June next, prohibiting the existence of cubicles on ground and middle floors of certain buildings? How many poor souls will have to edge themselves in the far too overcrowded area? When the Naval Yard Extension commences operations, the state of this District can well be imagined—it will be another Taipingshan, to be sure.

Lands in the western extremity of the town aggregate over a million of square feet, capable of holding hundreds of tenement houses and are now lying waste. Enquiries have elicited the fact that it does not pay the landlords to put up buildings for the average class of our citizens, because building materials have gone up so high that rents expected from them would scarcely yield 7% on the outlay, not even including the cost of land. To do away with overcrowding, even to a small extent, it behoves our Government to encourage landowners to put up at the western extremity of the colony as many buildings as required, and to send away wholesale all the existing disorderly houses at that end—Yours truly,

R.

MISSIONARIES IN CHINA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Sir,—With reference to a letter which appeared recently in your paper under the above heading, the writer asks in what way the missionaries were responsible for the Tai Ping rebellion? Whilst, of course, it would be absurd to lay the charge wholly at their door, still it cannot be denied, as a matter of history, that their tenets and teachings had a great deal to do with it indirectly. One of the first acts of Hung-siu Tsuen, and of his early converts was to be baptised, and to put away all idols, and the Confucian tablet out of their schools; and I suppose that not even the most ardent missionary or religious enthusiast of to-day would contend that the teachings of mystical Christianity tend to strengthen the respect and veneration of the Chinese for the laws and customs of their

country, cutting as it does at the very root and foundations of the state structure—Ancestral Worship! As to the charge of hypocricy, the making use of religion to further their own pecuniary ends, although, of course, there have been, and are such cases, taken as a body, they are as sincere as the rest of people, and so sweeping a charge is hardly worth the trouble of refuting; but as regards the charge of political intrigue, the truth of this, alas! was only too clearly demonstrated to the world by the Shanghai Press recently, on the part of the Catholics, and only last year the late Viceroy T'an complained to the Tsungli-Yamên of Protestant Missionaries being guilty of the same thing in the Kwang Tung provinces, and a circular was issued by the American Consul warning all missionaries against mixing themselves up with Chinese law suits under cover of religious privilege.

Your truly,
VERITAS.

Canton, May 12th, 1900.

THE TRANSPORT OF PLAGUE VICTIMS AND INFECTED CLOTHING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong 16th May, 1900.

Sir,—While the sanitary regulations are being so stringently inforced, it seems a glaring inconsistency that an utter lack of precaution should characterise the removal of plague victims and infected clothing.

Every day a grim sight is to be seen along the most frequented roads—the S.B. ambulance, coffin, and large baskets. As they are being jeggled along, the patient, corpse, and clothing, therein conveyed, may spread the bacilli, and these, when the weather is dry, may float about with the dust.

Perhaps it may be advisable for the Sanitary Board to have, for every infected district, a bamboo jetty and sampan to convey patients and corpses; and the clothing disinfected in the premises infected. Sometimes the contents of the baskets stink, and things drop along the route.

Even if deemed non-hazardous, the actual process is most disagreeable to passers-by, and constitutes a most uncanny nuisance. Is it because Hongkong has lost the terror inspired by plague?—Respectfully yours,

BALTHAZAR.

THE ALICE MEMORIAL AND NETHERSOLE HOSPITALS.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospitals:—

A. Chinoy	$ 5
W. Stuart Harrison	5
R. Cooke	20
H. N. Cooper	10
Anonymous	10
A. Hancock	50
E. W. Mitchell	20
A. Shaw	10
E. W. Rutter	10
H. P. Wadman	10
G. L. Tomlin	10
R. W. Dale	5
Heuermann, Herbst & Co.	5

A Tokyo dispatch to the *Osaka Asahi* announces that the value of opium for smoking manufactured in Formosa now exceeds Yen 4,500,000 a year, the raw material being chiefly supplied from ersia and India.

H. R. H. Prince Abhakara of Siam, who was for some time in Her Britannic Majesty's Navy, has invented a new submerged torpedo-tube, which the Admiralty is said to have accepted from him.

A Malay gentlemen who has recently returned from a visit to the interior of Kelantan, tells the *Perak Pioneer* that the people there appear to be happy, and to consider their State second to none. From an agricultural point of view, he says the State is a very flourishing one. Cocoanuts and paddy are extensively grown. The Siamese Government has now placed a Resident in each of the States under its protection on the west coast, and there is also a Resident-General.

A. S. WATSON AND CO., LIMITED.

On the 14th inst. at noon the fifteenth annual ordinary general meeting of shareholders in the above company (since its registration) was held at the Hongkong Dispensary. Mr. Hart Buck presided, and there were also present Messrs. G. Murray Bain, W. Hutton Potts, H. T. Veitch, Paul Jordan, W. C. Taylor, R. C. Wilcox, J. A. Tarrant, W. J. Gresson, and A. H. Mancell (Secretary).

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen: The report and statement of accounts have been in your hands since the 5th instant, so which your permission we will, as usual, take them as read. The total of our liabilities in the East and in London, including amounts on mortgage and Bills payable, is $119,423.43 larger at the 31st December 1899 than it was at the 31st December, 1898. From this, however, must be deducted $75,000, the loan account from the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, which was paid off in October 1899, making the net increase of your liabilities $44,423.43. Against this our total of stocks-in-trade at the 31st December 1899, is $89,917.24 larger than at the 31st December 1898. We have thus a balance to the good of increased stocks over increased liabilities of $45,493.81 A large proportion of this increase in stocks has taken place at Manila, where this year we are consequently beginning to reap the benefit of being able to meet the requirements of all comers, resulting in a steadily increasing business. Here also., in Hongkong, stocks have been added to, with the result that a greater variety of goods brings us an extended trade from the local public and from travellers and tourists, who pass through Hongkong in constantly increasing numbers. We have also established at West Point an additional well-equipped and up-to-date aerated water factory and are constructing in the same bulding suitable storage for large stocks of wines and spirits. Regarding our property assets, section A of Inland Lot No. 17 and the buildings thereon has been written down $4,000 from the amount it stood at in the previous balance sheet, for depreciation merely as a matter of ordinary business prudence. In reference to the Kowloon Inland Lots, a portion of Lot, No. 549 was sold in July last at $1.20 per square foot, the resulting profit, after spending $1,920 during the year in improvements, etc., on the whole property, was $3,537 which has been included in profit and loss account. The remaining land now stands in the books at 40 cents per square foot. Inland Lot No. 16 and the buildings thereon remains in the accounts at 149,000 as before. During the past year $15,500 have been spent on this property in structural alterations and repairs and the whole of this amount has been charged to and written off under repairs account. The buildings have thus been brought into a sound and modern condition, and the property was valued by Messrs Leigh and Orange in November last at $170,000. The whole of the block is well let at remunerative rentals. The company's net profits for 1899 shew an increase over the net profits for 1898 of $15,523.09, and as the volume of business generally for this year up to now is larger than it was for the corresponding period of last year, there is every reason to suppose that good results will attend the 1900 working. If the business continues to expand as it has been doing in the past, it may be necessary in the future to ask shareholders to subscribe additional capital, but this is a matter that for the present I think need not be further gone into. I shall be pleased to answer any questions referring to the report and statement of accounts now before you, before proceeding to move their adoption.

No questions being asked, the report and statement of accounts were adopted, on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. VEITCH.

On the motion of Mr. POTTS, seconded by Mr. GRESSON, Mr. F. Maitland was re-elected auditor.

The CHAIRMAN announced that this was all the business, and that dividend warrants would be ready at 11 o'clock to-day.

On the motion of Mr. G. MURRAY BAIN, seconded by Mr. PAUL JORDAN, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the general managers, secretary, and staff.

HUMPHREYS' ESTATE AND FINANCE CO., LIMITED.

On the 16th inst. at noon an extraordinary general meeting in connection with the above company was held at the offices, 38 and 40, Queen's Road Central, Mr. Hart Buck presided, and there were also present Messrs. A. H. Mancell, Clement, J. A. Tarrant, G. E. Williams, E. R. Millar, H. Sutton, and W. C. Taylor (secretary).

The CHAIRMAN said the business before them that day was to confirm as a special resolution the resolution passed at the extraordinary general meeting held on the 30th April, which read as follows:—"That the New Regulations approved by this meeting, and for the purpose of identification subscribed by the Chairman thereof, be and the same are hereby approved, and that such Regulations be, and they are hereby adopted, as the Regulations of the Company, to the exclusion of all the existing Regulations thereof." He proposed the confirmation of this resolution.

Captain CLEMENT seconded and the motion was carried.

This was all the business.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

SHOOTING—"A" CO.

The second shoot of the present series took place on the 13th inst., resulting in a win for Sergeant Lammert of the "A" Cup and for Corporal Barrett of the "B" Cup.

The following are the six best scores:—

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Handi-cap.	Total.
Sergeant Lammert ...	31	33	29	sc.	93
Gunner J. Grant Smith	25	27	23	6	81
Gunner H. S. Holmes	21	31	24	4	80
Sergt.-Major Smythe	27	25	27	sc	79
Corporal Barrett	21	17	16	20	74
Gunner P. A. Cox	26	23	14	9	72

HONGKONG.

The funeral took place on the 12th inst. at 2.30 p.m. of a well-known and much respected member of our Chinese community, the late Mr. Lee Sing, of Lai Hing & Co., who died on the 8th inst., in his 71st year.

On the 13th inst. Capt. Bland, adjutant of the Volunteer Corps, met with an accident involving considerable damage his right thumb. It appears that he got his hand caught in an electric fan. Fortunately, however, the report that it was necessary to amputate the thumb turned out not to be true.

The Japanese ships in harbour dressed ship one Thursday, and the Japanese firms hung out their national ensign in honour of the marriage of the Crown Prince. On the evening of the 10th inst the Japanese Consulate was gaily illuminated and Mr. K. Uyeno, the Consul, entertained a large number of guests.

Among the passengers by the homeward German mail on the 16th inst. was Sergeant Dunlop, of the R.W.F. who has received a commission as second lieutenant and is proceeding to South Africa to join the Second Worcesters.

At the Magistracy on the 15th inst. a Chinaman was sentenced to three months' hard labour for attempting to steal the wheel of a private ricksha. A lukong caught him going away with it. Inspector Baker informed His Worship that it was a common occurrence for men to steal either the wheel or body of a ricksha, fitting the wheel of one ricksha to the body of another, so that there would be less danger of identification.

At the Harbour Office on the 16th inst. Mr. Basil Taylor held an inquiry into the circumstances connected with the collision between the steam launch *Rising Sun*, Chan Mi master, and a second-class cargo boat, of which Tang Kau is master. Chan Mi said that at 6-15 p.m. on the 16th ult. he left Pedder's Wharf. He went astern from the Wharf and then turned round to go to Kowloon. The junk was standing to southward right off the Wharf. When he had turned he got on his course. He passed close to the junk and her boom fouled his funnel.—Tang Kau corroborated. He added that his boom and rudder were broken.—Chan Mi's certificate was suspended for two months for not observing the rule of the road.

The Return of visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum during the week ending 13th inst. shows that 405 non-Chinese and 142 Chinese visited the former, 286 non-Chinese and 1,966 Chinese the latter.

In consequence of indisposition the Chief Justice (Sir John Carrington) was unable to attend at the Supreme Court on the 14th inst., when the shell cases were set down for hearing.

Mrs. Gascoigne will no longer receive on Thursdays at Headquarter House. She will be "at home" on Thursday, 31st May, and subsequent Thursdays, at Thurlstone, the Peak, from 4 till 7 p.m.

It will be learned with general satisfaction that a local firm, Messrs. Leigh and Orange, have been appointed agents for Messrs. Punchard, McTaggart, Lowther & Co., the contractors for the Naval Yard extension. We understand that several contracts have been entered into and the workis now progressing.

The heavy downpour of rain on Sunday night, the 13th inst., had an appreciable effect upon the reservoirs, which rose some twelve feet. We have not heard of any special damage being done. Mr. J. W. Boales, of Elliott Crescent, Robinson road, sent a note down to the Central Police Station say that his house was flooded, and on some men being sent up to his assistance they found that the drain-grid had been blocked up by the sand, etc., washed down. A landslip took place in Barker road, causing a huge boulder to be dashed with great force into Magazine Gap road, At Kowloon Granville and Robinson roads have been washed up in different parts.

It cannot be said drunkenness is a vice at all general among the Chinese, but among the culprits brought before Mr. Gompertz at the Magistracy on the 14th inst. were two celestials charged with taking a drop too much, One of the offenders hailed from Kowloon. Between two and three o'clock on Sunday afternoon he was staggering along Reclamation street, Yaumati, followed by a large crowd who were laughing and making fun of him. One of the crowd ran against him, whereupon the defendant aimed a terrifiie blow at his tormentor. He however, missed his mark and falling forward struck a lamp-post, which resulted in his being the possessor of a "lovely black eye." On the police coming on the scene the man was taken to the Police Station. A fine of $2 was imposed. The other case was somewhat more serious. The offender was a Chinaman in a good position. Not only was he in trouble himself, but through attempting to relieve him from the clutches of the limbs of the law two of his concubines also found themselves up at the Magistracy. According to the story told by the police the man was going along Queen's Road East at about 3 o'clock yesterday morning in a chair. Thinking he would like to stretch his legs he alighted. and in staggering along under the verandah he came in contact with Chinese constable No. 182. The constable's dignity being offended he spoke roughly. For a few moments "complimentary" language was indulged in, and ultimately the defendant struck the lukon on the head and knocked off his helmet. A struggle ensued, during which the pair rolled into the gutter, which, in consequence of the heavy rains, was filled with all kinds of debris. They rolled over and over, until at last the lukon managed to blow his whistle. Another lukon came to his assistance, together with a district watchman and Constable Perkins (18). They seized hold of the defendant, but before they could get him away two of the man's concubines appeared on the scene. They hung on to the coats of the lukons and district watchman and tore them into shreds. They then grabbed Constable Perkins by the legs and made a desperate attempt to throw him. In the meantime the defendant knocked one of the lukons in the stomach and doubled him up. With great difficulty the defendant and his two concubines were taken to West Point Police Station. Here the defendant, the drink having got such hold of him, behaved like a mad man, it taking two or three of the strongest men in the station to hold him down. Once or twice he broke loose, and climbed the iron gate of the cell like a monkey. Ultimately he became exhausted, and was bailed out, together with the women. The hearing of the case was not concluded on the 14th, but was adjourned.

The *Gazette* notifies that Mr. M. Oustinoff assumed charge of the Imperial Russian Consulate at this port on the 7th inst.

The appointment of Mr. R. M Gray to be an Unofficial Member of the Legislative Council *vice* Mr. E. R. Belilios, resigned, is notified in the *Gazette*.

On going to the sale-room on the 13th inst., a Portuguese clerk in the employ of Messrs. Hughes and Hough, auctioneers, etc., found that the place had been enteredand a considerable quantity of money stolen. His safe had been broken open and $200 taken, whilst the compradore lost silk clothing of the value of $150. The police were at once communicated with. It was seen that entrance had been effected by breaking the glass in the skylight and descending into the sale-room by means of a rope On going on to the roof the police found a man there, and he was forthwith captured. He had evidently intended paying another visit to the sale-room and further ransacking the place.

A Chinaman from Macao appeared before Mr Gompertz at the Magistracy on the 11th inst charged with announcing by printed posters that there were two places at Macao open for the sale of lottery tickets, and he was further charged with having a number of lottery tickets in his possession. Sergeant Morrison saw the defendant distributing lottery tickets on the 10th inst, and on the man being searched posters referring to the two places at Macao open for the sale of lottery tickets were found on him. The defendant admitted that he was employed to deliver lottery tickets and collect the money. For the first offence he was fined $100 ($50 for each shop) and for the second $25.

At the offices of the Public Works Department on the 14th inst. Mr. G. J. W. King offered for sale by auction four lots of Crown land, including three situate at Hunghom, the last-named being Kowloon Inland Lots 222, 223, and 224. The first two were bought by Mr. A. Shelton Hooper, Lot 222, which fetched $4,500 (upset price $3,150, contains 10,500 square feet, the annual rent being $124). Lot 223 was sold for $3,120 (upset $2,394). It contains 7,980 square feet. Lot 224 was bought by Mr. Pang Shau Chin for $620, and is to be utilised for Chinese tenements. It contains 1,890 square feet. The annual rent is $22. The upset price was $567. Inland Lot 1,593, which is situate at Stone Nullah lane, was bought by Mr. Pan Chin for $2,720 (upset price $1,730). The lot contains 1,780 square feet. The annual rent is $24.

COMMERCIAL.

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 18th May.—There is no market, and a further decline in price is reported. Quotations for Formosa are: $93.00 to $93.50; sales 250 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 18th May.—Further decline in price is reported, market being weak. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White...	$7.67 to $7.72	cl.
do. „ 2, White...	7.10 to 7.13	„
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown,..	5.28 to 5.32	„
do. „ 2, Brown...	5.10 to 5.15	„
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.80 to 7.85	„
do. „ 1, White...	7.14 to 7.17	„
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	5.10 to 5.15	„
do. „ 2, Brown...	5.00 to 5.05	„
Foochow Sugar Candy.....	11.7 to 11.75	„
Shanghai „	9.83 to 9.87	„

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 11th May.—Malwa.—Business has been small this week and prices receded about $10 per picul for old drug. Present quotations are:—2 years old 910, 3 years 930, and older $940.

Bengal.—Is very active, and a fair amount of sales were made during the interval. Closing quotations are: New Patna "spat" $965, forward $952½, New Benares $980, and old Patna, $1035 or $1040.

Persian.—Superior quality is in demand at $900 or $925.

STOCK.

Malwa.....	540 chests.
Patna.....	870 „
Benares.....	100 „
Persian.....	2,100 „

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1900.	$	$	$	$	$	$
May 12	965	1040	957	1030	880	910/40
May 14	965	1040	975	1030	880	910/40
May 15	965	1040	975	1030	880	910/40
May 16	965	1040	975	1030	880	910/40
May 17	965	1040	975	1030	880	910/40
May 18	965	1040	975	1030	880	910/40

RICE

HONGKONG, 18th May.—The prices are going downward, market being dull. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary.....	$2.94 to 2.98
„ Round, Good quality.....	3.25 to 3.30
„ Long.....	3.40 to 3.45
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ...	3.15 to 3.20
„ Garden, „ No. 1 ...	3.30 to 3.35
„ White.....	4.00 to 4.05
„ Fine Cargo.....	4.23 to 4.27

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 18th May.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—*Bombay Yarn:*—1,150 bales No. 10 at $87 to $93, 500 bales No. 12 at $89 to $96, 300 bales No. 16 at $97 to $107, 1,150 bales No. 20 at $101 to $109. *Japanese Yarn.*—50 bales No. 10 at $90, 50 bales No. 12 at $95, 100 bales No. 20 at $104.50 to $105. *Grey Shirtings.*—1,200 bales 8¼ lbs. 4 Dogs at $3.65. 600 pieces 8¼ lbs. 3 Dogs at $3.65, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Blue Dragon at $4.25.

METALS.—*Quicksilver.*—50 flasks at $174, 50 flasks at $174, 50 flasks at $173.75.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 18th May.—The market has been more active and a fair business in most stocks has been transacted. while rates as a rule have improved.

BANKS.—Small sales of Hongkong and Shanghais, have been effected at $301, $302 and $303 per cent. prem., market closing steady at $304 per cent. prem. Nationals continue quiet with a small business at quotation.

MARINE INSURANCES—China Traders have changed hands at $54½, Cantons at $150, and Straits at $1. Unions are still enquired for and the rate has risen to $250 but very few come upon the market. In the Northern Insurances there is no local bussiness to report.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong Fires continues on offer at $295 without leading to business. Chinas have also ruled dull with sellers at $80.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong Canton and Macaos have changed hands at $30½, Indos at $92, $91½, and $91, closing steady at $91½. Douglases continue neglected and without business. China Manilas and China Mutuals unchanged and without business.

REFINERIES.—No business to report under this heading, except a small sale of Luzons at $36. China Sugars continue dull and neglected at quotation.

MINING.—A small business has been done in Punjoms at $6 and $6.10, market closing steady at $6.15. Olivers have changed hands at quotations. Jelebus have ruled rather quieter with small sales at $12.75, closing with sellers at that and buyers at $12½. Great Easterns have found small buyers at 52½ cents. Raubs have shown a further decline with sales at $52, $51, $50½ and $50, closing, however, steadier at $51 to $51½.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue very dull with no business, sellers at $490 ruling the market. Kowloon Wharves have ruled rather firmer with small sales at $86½ and $87, closing steady at $86. Wanchais continue in demand but shares do not come in the market.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDING.—Hongkong Lands have improved to $125½ after small sales at $124½ and $125, market closing with buyers at $125½ and a few sellers at $126. Hotels have improved to $119, and a small demand for cash and forward shares in the early part of the week was not met. West Points have improved to $50 after small sales at $49, and close with buyers at the latter and sellers at the former rate. Humphreys have ruled quiet with sellers at $10.75 and only a small business.

COTTONS.—Hongkongs have changed hands at $37. Quotations for the Northern Mills are taken from the latest Shanghai circulars.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have changed hands at $30½ cum new issue, and close with buyers at that rate. China Borneos have improved to $25, and Watsons have found buyers at $16 ex dividend. Nothing further to report under this heading.

Closing quotations are as follows :—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	$125	[$505, buyers 304 p. ct. prem.—
China & Japan, ordy.	£4	£1.
Do. deferred	£1	£5 5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	$28.
Foun. Shares...	£8	$28.
Bell's Asbestos E. A....	£1	$1½ buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	$10	$16, buyers
China Prov. L. & M....	$10	$10, sellers
China Sugar	$100	$126.
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 65.
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 62½.
Laou Kung Mow ...	Tls. 100	Tls. 70.
Soyehee	Tls. 500	Tls. 37.
Yahloong.....	Tls. 100	Tls. 57.
Hongkong	$100	$37, sales
Dairy Farm.....	$6	$6½, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo....	$25	$48
Green Island Cement...	$10	$30½, buyers
H. & C. Bakery	$50	$50.
Hongkong & C. Gas ...	£10	$30.
Hongkong Electric	$10	$11 85, buyers
	$10	$2.10, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways ...	$100	$165, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	$50	$119.
Hongkong Ice.....	$25	$166.
H. & K. Wharf & G...	$50	$36, buyers
Hongkong Rope.....	$50	$170.
H. & W. Dock	$125	490 p. ct. prem.— [$737½, sellers
Insurance—		
Canton.....	$50	$130, sales & buys.
China Fire	$20	$80, sellers
China Traders'	$25	$54, sellers
Hongkong Fire	$50	$295, sellers
North-China	£25	Tls. 165.
Straits	$20	$1, sales & buyers
Union	$50	$255, buyers
Yangtsze	$60	$121, sellers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv't	$50	$125½, buyers
Humphreys Estate...	$10	$10.90, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	$30	$25½, sellers
West Point Building	$50	$49, buyers
Luzon Sugar	$100	$36, sales
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	$300, sellers
Gt. Estn. & C'donian	$3	62½ cts. sales
Do. Preference ...	$1	40 cents
Jelebu	$5	$12½, buyers
Queen's Mines Ltd....	25c.	15 cents
Oliver's Mines, A....	$5	$3¾.
Do. B....	$4½	$3½.
Punjom	$7	$6.15, buyers
Do. Perference...	$1	$1.20.
Raubs	16s 10d	$51½, buyers
New Amoy Dock	$6¼	$20½, buyers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila...	$50	$100.
China Mutual Pref.	£10	£10 10s.
China Ordinary	£10	£10 10s. sellers
Do.	£5	£5 5s.
Douglas Steamship	$50	$19, sellers
H., Canton and M...	$15	$30½, sales & buys.
Indo-China S. N. ...	£10	$91½, buyers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.....	£100	£300
Star Ferry	$10	$83¾, buyers
Tebrau Planting Co. ...	$5	$5, sellers
Do.	$3	$3.
United Asbestos	$4	$7½, sales
D.	$10	$11, buyers
Wanchai Warehouse ...	$37½	$54, sales & buys.
Watkins, Ld.	$10	$10½, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	$10	$16 ex div.

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 18th May.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/11⅛
Bank Bills, on demand	1/11⅛
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight.....	1/11⅛
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight.....	1/11⅝
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/11⅝
Documentary Bills 4 months' sight	2/0
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.46
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.50½
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	2 00½
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	47½
Credits, 60 days' sight	48½
ON BOMBAY—	
Telegraphic Transfer.....	146½
Bank, on demand.....	146½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	146½
Bank, on demand	146½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	71⅛
Private, 30 days' sight	72⅛
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand.....	3½ % pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand.....	2½ % pm.
ON SINGAPORE :—	
On demand.....	1 % pm.
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand.....	117½
ON HAIPHONG :—	
On demand	3 % pm
ON SAIGON :—	
On demand	2½ % pm.
ON BANGKOK :—	
On demand.....	60
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate...	10.16
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael.....	52.65
BAR SILVER, per oz.....	27⅝

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—*Coromandel* (str.), *Japan* (str.), *Patroclus* (str.), *Agamemnon* (str.),

For MARSEILLES.—*Oceanien* (str.), *Hakata Maru* (str.).

For BREMEN.—*Hamburg* (str.).

For LIVERPOOL DIRECT.—*Idomeneus* (str.).

For HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—*Friesberg* (str.), *Ambria* (str.), *Bamberg* (str), *Sarnia* (str.), *Sambia* (str.),

For VICTORIA, B.C.—*Goodwin* (str.).

For VANCOUVER VIA SHANGHAI.—*Empress of China* (str.).

For PORTLAND, O.—*Monmouthshire* (str.).

For SAN FRANCISCO.—*Doric* (str.), *Nippon Maru* (str.).

For NEW YORK.— *Drummond* (str.), *Armenia* (str.).

For SAN DIEGO AND KOBE.—*Strathgyle* (str.).

For AUSTRALIA.—*Kasuga Maru* (str.), *Airlie* (str.).

For SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.—*Chelydra* (str.).

For SINGAPORE, PENANG AND BOMBAY.—*Bisagno* (str.).

For BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.—*Miike Maru* (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

May— ARRIVALS.

12, Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.
12, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.
12, Cheang H. Kian, British str., from Straits.
12, Anping Maru, Jap. str., from Taiwanfoo.
12, Empress of Japan, Brit. str., from V'couver
12, Loosok, British str., from Bangkok.
12, Wongkoi, British str., from Bangkok.
12, Descartes, French cruiser, from Saigon.
13, Benvenue, British str., from Saigon.
13, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
13, Mongkut, British str., from Bangkok.
13, Strathgyle, British str., from Moji.
13, Thales, British str., from Taiwanfoo.
13, Kiangsi, Chinese str., from Canton.
13, Charterhouse, British str., from Singapore.
14, Hermes, Norwegian str., from Hongay.
14, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
14, Abner Coborn, Amr. ship, from Moji.
14, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
14, Alcinous, British str., from Shanghai.
14, Kweiyang, British str., from Tientsin.
14, Monmouthshire, Brit. str., from Portland.
14, Preussen, German str., from Yokohama.
15, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
15, Silesia, German str., from Yokohama.
15, Sachsen, German str., from Hamburg.
15, Lion, French gunboat, from Haiphong.
15, Zafiro, Amr. supply ship, from Manila.
15, Esang, British str., from Tientsin.
15, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
15, Kochidate Maru, Jap. str., from K'notsu.
15, Ardandearg, British str., from Manila.
15, Diamante, British str., from Manila.
15, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
15, Loyal, German str., from Newchwang.
15, Sullberg, German str., from Canton.
15, Taiyo Maru, Japanese str., from Canton.
15, Landaura, British str., from Madras.
16, Sanuki Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
16, Taifu, German str., from Iloilo.
16, Chowtai, British str., from Bangkok.
16, Hailoong, British str., from Swatow.
16, Hangchow, British str., from Wuhu.
16, Lady Joicey, British str., from Hongay.
16, Onsang, British str., from Saigon.
16, Tamsui Maru, Japanese str., from Amoy.
16, Doric, British str., from San Francisco.
16, Jacob Diederichsen, Ger. str., from S'pore.
16, Tam O'Shanter, Amr. ship, from N. York.
17, Pronto, German str., from Newchwang.
17, Canton, British str., from Canton.
17, Wingsang, British str., from Canton.
17, Taisang, British str., from Shanghai.
17, Hatton, British str., from Mororan.
17, Hating, French str., from Haiphong.
17, Quarta, German str., from Saigon.
18, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
18, Hiroshima Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
18, China, German str., from Saigon.
18, Clara, German str., from Haiphong.
18, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
18, Lightning, British str., from Calcutta.
18, Royalist, British str., from Singapore.
18, Hermes, Norwegian str., from Canton.
18, Baltimore, Amr. cruiser, from Woosung.

May— DEPARTURES.

12, Chusan, British str., for Europe.
12, Ballaarat, British str., for Shanghai.
12, Taksang, British str., for Shanghai.
12, Taichiow, British str., for Bangkok.
12, Wosang, British str., for Canton.
12, Bisagno, Italian str., for Bombay.
12, Hinsang, British str., for Singapore.
12, Socotra, British str., for Shanghai.
12, Ayr, British str., for Kutchinotzu.
12, Alboin, British str., for Bangkok.
12, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
12, Sullberg, German str., for Canton.
12, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
13, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
13, Siam, British str., for Swatow.
13, Sabine Rickmers, British str., for Swatow.
13, P. C. C. Klao, British str., for Swatow.
13, Aurora, British cruiser, for Shanghai.
13, Carmarthenshire, British steamer, for Christmas Island.
13, Abergeldie, British str., for Moji.
13, Hating, French str., for Haiphong.
13, Fukui Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
13, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.
13, Waterwitch, British surv. sh., for a cruise.
14, Apenrade, German str., for Hoihow.
14, Hoihao, French str., for Hoihow.
14, Tategami Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.
14, Rohilla, British str., for Yokohama.
14, Hermes, Norwegian str., for Canton.
14, Cheang H. Kian, British str., for Amoy.
14, Amigo, German str., for Saigon.
15, Kiangsi, Chinese str., for Moji.
15, Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
15, Charterhouse, British str., for Swatow.
15, Propontis, British str., for Shanghai.
15, Kweiyang, British str., for Canton.
15, Deuteros, German str., for Saigon.
15, Sullberg, German str., for Chefoo.
15, Amara, British str., for Singapore.
15, Sachsen, German str., for Shanghai.
15, Warath, British sch., for Manila.
16, Empress of Japan, Brit. str., for V'couver.
16, Norma, British 4-m. bark, for S. Francisco.
16, Alcinous, British str., for London.
16, Anping Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
16, Esang, British str., for Canton.
16, Taiyo Maru, Jap. str., for Chefoo.
16, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
16, Roma, British str., for Sourabaya.
16, Hangchow, British str., for Canton.
16, Isla de Cuba, Amr. gunboat, for Manila.
16, Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
16, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Canton.
16, China, Amr. str., for San Francisco.
16, Preussen, German str., for Europe.
16, Tainan, British str., for Australia.
16, Lion, French gunboat, for Canton.
16, Plover, British g.-b., for Singapore.
16, Ardandearg, British str., for Yokohama.
17, R. Rickmers, Ger. sh., for Townsend.

17, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
17, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
17, Germania, German str., for Amoy.
17, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
17, Canton, British str., for Shanghai.
17, Daphne, German str., for Vladivostock.
17, Pronto, German str., for Canton.
17, Duke of Fife, British str., for Tacoma.
17, Silesia, German str., for Bombay.
17, Kashidate Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.
18, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
18, Chelydra, British str., for Calcutta.
18, Sanuki Maru, Japanese str., for Singapore.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Ballaarat*, for Hongkong, from London, Mr and Mrs J. O'Connell and three children, 2nd Lieut. G. H. Gwyther, Lieut. Ensor, Mr T. H. Hall, Mrs McCarthy's ayah, Mr Harvey, Mrs and Miss Harvey; from Largo Bay, Mr and Mrs Ramsay; from Marseilles, Dr. J. C. Thomson, Mr and Mrs J. C. Oswald, infant and amah, Mr K. D. Adams, Mr E. C. and Mrs McCarthy and infant, Mr and Mrs E. T. Sanson, Mr T. W. Wood; from Colombo, Messrs J. H. Betts and Rhodes James; from Singapore, Mr Kayser: for Kobe, from London, Miss M. M. Gale: for Nagasaki, from London, Miss J. Kobama: for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Mrs Percy Scott and Mr Collbran; from Singapore, Mr E. J. Barley: for Shanghai, from London, Mrs H. Way and child, Mr Robt. Staff and Lance-Corp. Porters; from Marseilles, Mr R. Thurston; from Brindisi, Mr England; from Singapore, Mr J. H. White.

Per *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, Mrs. Newell, Mrs. J. M. Jenks, Messrs. W A. Greig, A. J. Osgood and Wolde; from Yokohama, Miss Hunt, Messrs. G. Stewart and P. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. J. Taber; from Kobe, Mrs. E. Halliday, Mr. J. Halliday, Dr. and Mrs. E. Wing, Dr. and Mrs. J. W. Moss; from Nagasaki, Dr. Berlin and Lieut. A. C. Kelvey; from Shanghai, Messrs. A. J. Findlay, A. P. Stokes, A. Koppel, Hjousberry, C. F. Robinson, Mrs. Tam Wa and infant, Messrs. C. W. Dickson, Morgan, H. Morton and Mrs. H. G. Dowler and child.

Per *Monmouthshire*, from Portland (Or.), &c., Mr. and Mrs. Longstreet, Mrs Hindmarsh, Miss Stevens, Messrs. Motley and Correa.

Per *Sungkiang*, from Manila, Mrs. Wildman and servant, Mrs. S. C. Potter, Mrs. Gross, Messrs. G. Wolfe, J. J. Andersen, C. Hubner, D. Brown, R. Atkinson, A. J. Godfrey, W. Friemann, S. Neumann, J. C. Andersen, Hobaso Joshi, Mrs. Maria David, Miss Casimara Aguila, Messrs. F. Licerio, Cecilio Lopez, F. Samto, Madames Julia Rivera, Maria Manuella and Justa Domingo,

Per *Lyeemoon*, from Shanghai, Mr. E. Tockers.

Per *Haimun*, from Swatow, Miss Ferris, Master Merz and Mr. Bryson.

Per *Silesia*, from Yokohama, for Trieste, Mr. Udo de Rutka.

Per *Sachsen*, from Hamburg, for Hongkong, Mrs Alma Sandow; for Shanghai, Mr Reg.-Baumeister Born, Mrs Stabsarzt, Dr. Mixius and child and Mrs Johanna Sippel: from Antwerp, for Shanghai, Mr Fred. Chabot; for Yokohama, Miss Nora von Fallot: from Southampton, for Hongkong, Mr and Mrs G. W. Appelby, Mr and Mrs Hughes; for Shanghai, Mr Grainger and family, Messrs London, Maclachlan, Wright Pagden, James Ross, Misses E. Warren and F. Warren: from Genoa, for Hongkong, Mr. Rudolph Arnheim, Mr and Mrs Rob. Germann, Mr Albert Schnell; for Shanghai, Major Christ, Mr Heinrich Cordes, Mr and Mrs Five and child, Messrs Georg Junghändel and Kohler, Capt.-Lieutenant Tapken and Mrs Hauptmann Welzel; for Hiogo, Mr Fritz Lüdecke; for Yokohama, Dr. Jukio Yamakawa.

Per *Preussen*, for Hongkong, from Kobe, Mr. H. L. Helm; from Nagasaki, Misses J. H. and S. H. Graham; from Shanghai, Mrs. Philippot and three children and servant, Miss Hermann, Miss Fleming, Mrs and Misses Benjamin, Mr C. Hermann: for Singapore, from Shanghai, Messrs Douglas, Knock, J. L. Crockett and H. Seiler: for Penang, from Yokohama, Mrs Caulfield and servant: for Port Said, from Nagasaki, Mr and Mrs J. Pitakoff: for Genoa, from Yokohama, Mr H. Graner; from Kobe, Mr C. Steinhauer; from Shanghai, Mrs Seaman, Mrs Marth, Miss Gaskins, Miss G. Rassi, Miss Kubler, Mr and Mrs C. C. Stuhlmann and two children, Mr and Mrs H. Plambeck and three children, Messrs R. Abesser, R. Lobbecke, Capt. Braun: for Southampton, from Shanghai, Mrs Boad, Mrs Pollock, Mrs and Miss Fishe, Miss G. Pearse, Miss Marshbank, Mr and Mrs T. M. Wilson and three children, Messrs E. Davis, T. G. Patterson, Wilbur le Hooker, Masters Lowden: for Antwerp, from Shanghai, Mr and Mrs C. Reiss and two children: for Bremen, from Yokohama, Baron Ungern Sternberg, Mr F. Frerichs; from Shanghai, Messrs F. Zellentin and A. C. Raindor.

Per *Diamante*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Saunders, child and amah, Messrs. Monteiro, Lim Fay Lay, Hughes, Lyons, Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, Messrs. P. Carreto Y. Daulet and Geo. Parket.

Per *Sandawa*, from Madras, Mrs. and Miss Messer and Miss Cranmer.

Per *Doric*, from San Francisco, &c., Comdr. and Mrs. Geo. Cowle, U.S.N., Mrs. J. W. Hillings, A. L. Gillmore, Mr. R. A. Dowler, Mrs. L. R. Hawley, Messrs. R. J. McCord, Walter H. Howard, Major R. F. Straub, U.S.A., Lieut. T. D. Merrill, U.S.A., Mr. R. Skeel, Jr., Mrs. R. Skeel, Mr. E. D. Sanders, Mr. and Mrs. Cumrock, Mr. J. N. Boyd, Mrs. F. H. Eldridge, Messrs. J. Barlow and H. W. Colie.

DEPARTED.

Per *Menmuir*, for Manila, Messrs G. E. Evans, A. R. Jordan, Playfair, D. Conchu, A. A. Montague, Mrs Montague, Mrs Byers, Mr and Mrs Joy, child and amah, Mr W. Kreher, Lieut. G. F. Cooper, U.S.N., Mrs Remedios, child and amah, Mr and Mrs Elizolde, two children and two servants, Miss Arizaleta, Mrs Jodd, Mrs Lawton, three children and maid, Mr England, Mrs Rodgers, Miss Jones, Mr and Mrs Galvin, Miss Hessain, Mrs Collies, Messrs James, A. Bernia, Morato, W. C. Mogridge, E. Michael and W. Chok On.

Per *Chusan*, from Yokohama, for Singapore, Capt. G. J. L. de Berry: from Nagasaki, for London, Messrs K. Yamamoto and K. Wakabayashi: from Shanghai, for London, Miss Florence Cole and Miss Simpson; for Bombay, Miss Dobson: from Hongkong, for London, Messrs A. M. Grant, G. W. Thomas, J. A. Crews, M. Lim, G. Lim, Master Escolar, Miss M. Lambourne, Mr Gidley and Corporal F. W. Donovan; for Marseilles, Messrs N. Lazarus and Atkinson; for Bombay, Miss Woodman and Mr R. Sarafally.

Per *Ballaarat*, for Shanghai, from London, Mr Robert Staff, Mrs H. Way and child, Lance Corporal A. G. Parters; from Marseilles, Mr R. Thurston; from Brindisi, Mr England; from Singapore, Mr J. N. White; from Hongkong, Mrs Groundwater, Mr Jacob Holm, Surgeon A. Woolcombe, Surgeon A. H. Feremy, Messrs Tavachi Shirasu, Cambefort, Damour, Miss Neal, Messrs W. H. Giller, C. H. Pacquet, P. Pascua, J. Encarnacion, C. Francke, G. H. Taylor, Dr. C. Rossler, Viscount De Clolet, Capt. Labrousse and Mr H. Collbran.

Per *Rohilla*, for Nagasaki, from Hongkong, Mrs. A. Hondo; from London, Miss Kohama: for Kobe, from Hongkong, Messrs. Chang Shu May, Chan Ping Ting, Chan Kai Cheong, Chan Kai Chuen, Kwong Tong Sang, Master May Koon Tung, Master Ah Cheong and Mr. H. Moon; from London, Miss M. M. Galé: for Yokohama, from Hongkong, Messrs. G. H. Wheeler and Lum Chue; from Singapore, Mr. E. J. Barley and Mr. E. H. Hartley; from Bombay, Mr. Bhicaji.

Per *Tsinan*, for Manila, Messrs. H. D. C. Jones, A. Turner, J. Halliday, R. P. Hobson, L. H. Hiryar, C. A. Clark, G. R. Anderson, A. J. Finlay, J. Morgan, Y. von Oertzen, H. Stevenson, Mr. and Mrs. Taber, Mr. and Mrs. Kelly, Messrs. W. C. Berlin, A. C. McKelvey, F. de Lara, F. Dominga, G. Alvares, M. Michida, J. B. Trinidad, E. Carmelo, Mrs. Knepper; for Sydney, Messrs. S. Oyston and J. J. Bates; for Melbourne, Mr. J. O. Woolloxall.

Per *China*, for Shanghai, Mr D. Willard Lyon, Mrs B. Browning, Mr Ma, Lin and Mr Tin; for Nagasaki, Mr J. Hosman; for Kobe, Major Dorehill, Mr and Mrs G. M. Carvalho, Miss A. Carvalho, Mr and Mrs G. L. Baldwin and Mr Pow-Hin Hing and native servant; for Yokohama, Mr L. Fong Gook and native servant, Dr. T. Macao, Mrs Macao, infant and amah; for San Francisco, Mr and Mrs F. T. Evans, Mrs M. Stepheson, Mr Chan Kan; for Vancouver, Mr W. Whiley; for London, Mr J. H. Betts, Mr F. C. Wilford and Mrs M. Reyfers.

Per *Preussen*, from Japan, for Penang, Mrs. Caulfield; for Genoa, Messrs K. Kato, C. Steinhauer, F. Frerichs and H. Graner; for Port Said, Mr Y. Pitakoff; for Bremen, Mr B. N. Sternberg: from Shanghai, for Singapore, Messrs. D. Knocker, J. H. Crockett and H. Seiler; for Colombo, Mr D. Machlister, for Genoa, Mrs. Seaman, Mrs. Marth, Misses Gaskins, G. Rossi, Klüge, Capt. Braun, Messrs R. Lobbecke and R. Abesser, Dr. and Mrs C. C. Stuhlmann and children, Mr and Mrs H. Plambeck and children; for London, Mr and Mrs Wei, Messrs J. Hill, E. Davis, T. Y. Loh, P. K. Loh, G. G. Patterson, Mrs Boad, Mr and Mrs T. M. Wilson and children, Mrs. G. Pearse, Mrs Marshbank, Mrs Pollock, Mrs and Miss Fishe, Master Lowder and Mr Wilbur le Hooker; for Antwerp, Mr and Mrs Reip; for Bremen, Messrs F. Zellentin and A. C. Ramdor; from Hongkong, for Singapore, Mr and Mrs H. Pinckey and child, Messrs C. Robinson, C. Astarlva and J. A. Goitisolo; for Penang, Mr W. A. Greig; for Genoa, Lieut. Barrett, Messrs. G. L. Duncan, C. Gorges, H. L. Helm, Mrs. Ready and child; for Antwerp, Mr. J. C. Andersen; for London, Messrs C. Defoer, Derrick, Percival, Mrs Boyd Bredon, Misses Hunt, Hardacre, Harker, Greer, Rev. and Mrs Philippe; for Bremen, Misses Firns and Zogling, Mr C. Meyer; for Hamburg, Mrs and Misses Benjamin, Messrs S. Newmann and H. Modahr: from Singapore, Mr J. Walden and family, Mrs Waterman and child, Messrs J. L. Salomonson, Davis, Mr and Mrs Thomson and child, Mr and Mrs Broese von Gronau, Mrs Ledeboer, Mr and Mrs H. Bruinslich, Mr Schrey and family, Mr Fehr and family, Messrs Travers, A. Egges-Post and two children, Mrs Haase and child, Mrs. Cornfield and child; from Colombo, Mrs Ohlmer and Sister B. Margaret.

Per *Sachsen*, for Shanghai, from Hamburg, Dr. and Mrs Mixius; from Antwerp, Messrs Born and F. Chabot; from Genoa, Major Christ, Mrs H. Welzel, Mr and Mrs E. Five, Lieut. Tapken, Messrs G. Yunghaendel, H. Cordes, W. Kohler, G. Richter, R. Wuscke, M. Dusehl, H. Milde and A. Junge; from Southampton, Mr James Ross; from Singapore, Messrs W. C. Ramsy, F. Rutin, P. Jacobson, R. Jacobson, Ah Shing, L. Toffe and family and Mrs S. Cotter; from Hongkong, Messrs C. F. Smith, K. Dalvy: for Nagasaki, from Singapore, Mrs. Wadsadah; from Hongkong, Miss S. Gross: for Hiogo, from Genoa, Mr Fritz Ludecke; for Yokohama, from Antwerp, Mr Fallot; from Genoa, Dr. Y. Yamakawa, Mr G. Weinmann; from Colombo, Mr and Mrs Wilson and Mrs Cox.

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